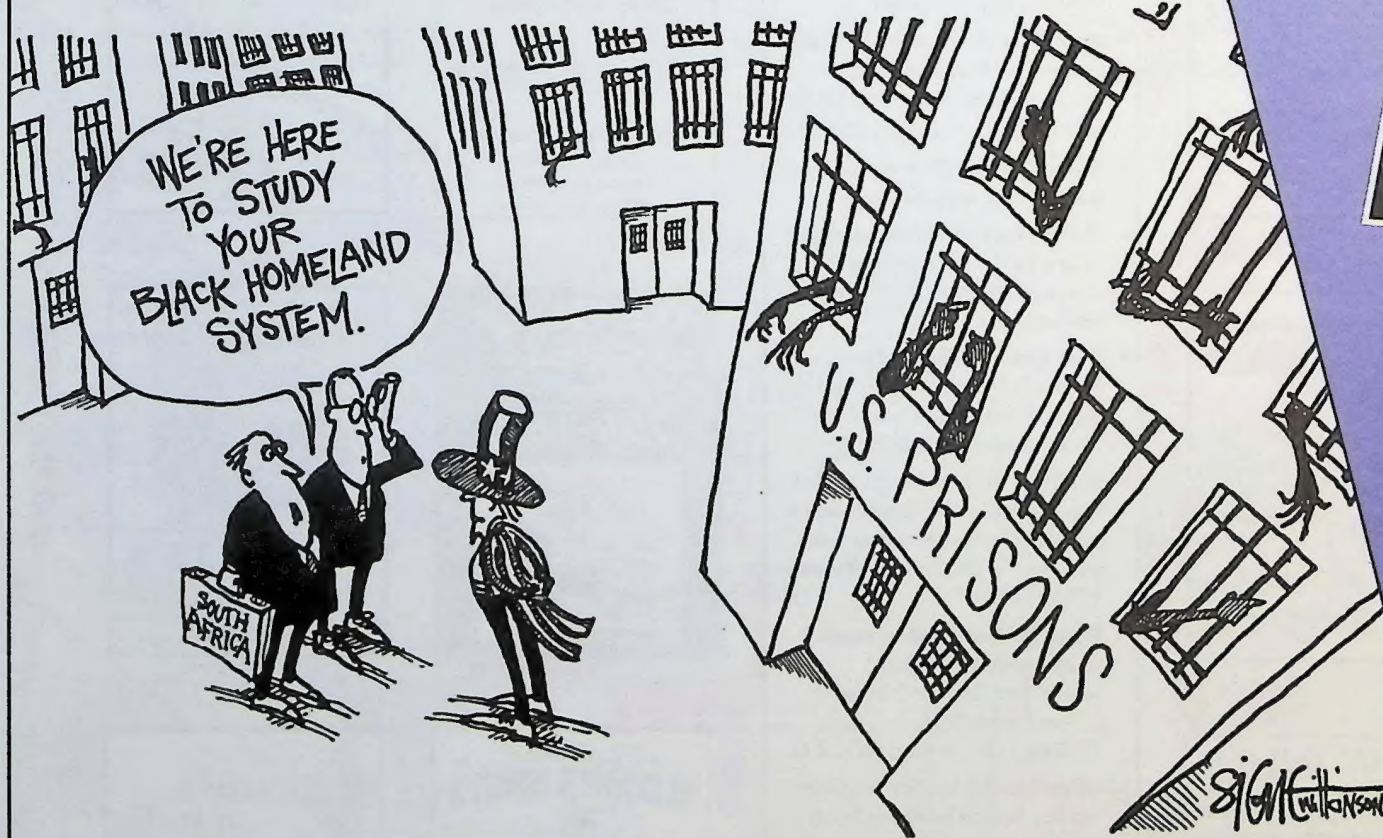


EPISODE #103
January 13, 1994

The Valley COMIC

N ♦ E ♦ W ♦ S



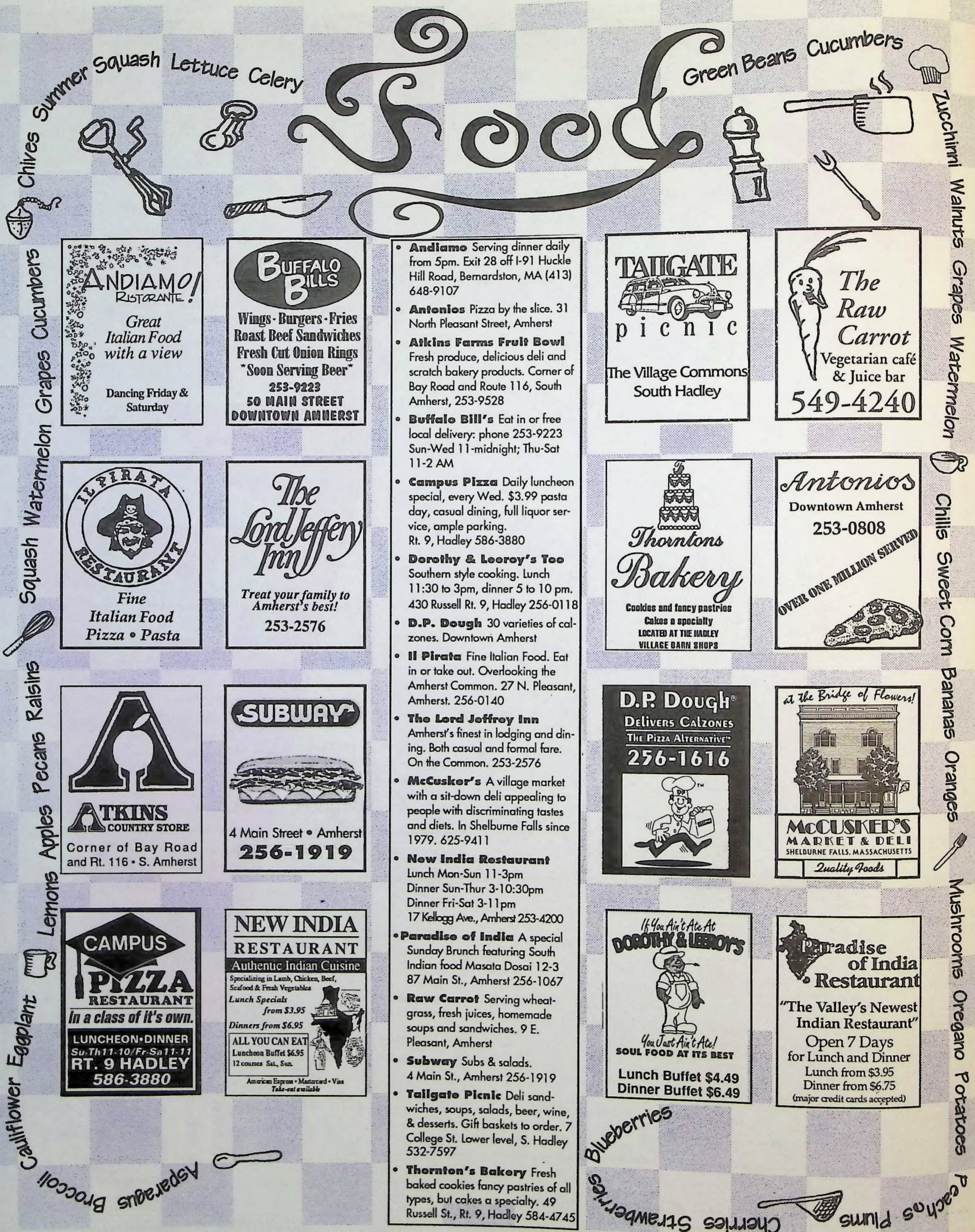
ENTERTAINMENT LISTINGS!!

STORIES:
HOLIDAZED
SAY AAAAGH!
OH, SAY CAN U-ZI?
IN A WORLD OF THEIR OWN
SHALL I CHANGE THE OIL?
BEYOND POLITIX
USA TODAY

INSIDE

FEATURES: THE FAR SIDE,
DOONESBURY,
CALVIN & HOBBS,
VIEWS OF THE WORLD,
JOE BOB BRIGGS, LEOLD,
IZZY GESELL'S HUMOR ME,
THIS MODERN WORLD,
TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT,
L.A. CUCARACHA,
MIKE CHRISMAN,
LOCAL HEROES,
EARTHWEEK





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17 Kellogg Ave., Amherst 253-4200
- **Paradise of India** A special Sunday Brunch featuring South Indian food Masata Dosai 12-3 87 Main St., Amherst 256-1067
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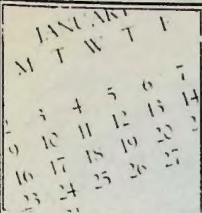
Paradise of India Restaurant

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Lunch from \$3.95
Dinner from \$6.75
(major credit cards accepted)

PAGE THREE

by Mike Chrisman



Well, the holidays are over, and lots of you breathe a collective sigh of relief. You're bushed. You're broke. You hope Chanukah/Christmas never comes again. You certainly have the right to feel that way, because our Constitution clearly states: "Congress shall make no law compelling holiday shoppers to max out their Discover cards." So take a break. In a democracy, nobody's forced to participate.

But what about the rest of you? What about the strong, determined, fiercely competitive millions whose credo ("Shop Till Your Nose Bleeds") rallied our ancestors during dark times...and helped pave the nation for the triumph of the American Dream? Where would the Republic be today if our brave forebears had stopped shopping when the shopping got tough?

Humans need holidays. That's why England and Canada decided not just to stop at Christmas. The next day — December 26 — is Boxing Day. Then December 27 is Kick-Boxing Day, and so on. Many people also celebrate Christmas again on January 6, a result of the Three Wise Men — all macho guys — showing up twelve days late for Christmas because none of them wanted to ask directions. But there are many, many more holidays to celebrate, more occasions to buy presents, more excuses for exhaustive and festive dinners. So as a public service to those legions who suffer from Holiday Withdrawal Syndrome, this newspaper offers a complete list of celebrations for the remainder of January. Party on, Americans.

- January 14: Oil Filter Day
- January 15: Feast of Dread
- January 16: Annual Huguenot Roast
- January 17: Rat Appreciation Day
- January 18: Festival of Inert Gas
- January 19: Zinc Day
- January 20: Bohunk Day (Canada)
- January 21: International Drug Cartel Day
- January 22: Jour de Beer-Nuts (Louisiana)
- January 23: Doris Day (Ha ha — just a joke to see if you were paying attention.

Today is *actually*: Nudity Day, when millions of Americans will try to overcome their unhealthy dependence on clothing)

- January 24: Feast of Carcinogens
- January 25: Brain Stem Awareness Day
- January 26: Neurosis Festival
- January 27: Carnival of Toast
- January 28: First Day of Genitalia
- January 29: Festival of Subatomic Particles
- January 30: Doofus Eve
- January 31: Doofus

If these joyous occasions don't kick-start you back into a shopping frenzy, there's not much hope for America's economic recovery. So if you've got an ounce of patriotic blood in your veins, put down this newspaper right now, and go out there and *buy something you don't need!* Generations of unborn shoppers will thank you for it. We at this newspaper also thank you for it, and offer as our holiday wish the immortal words of Tiny Tim: "Visa bless us, every one."

The Valley Comic News

P.O. Box 515, Northampton, MA 01061

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CAN I SEE IT
YOUR WAY IF
YOU KEEP
BLOCKING MY
VIEW?

BAD
DOG.
NO
BISCUIT.

MY KARMA
RAN OVER
MY DOGMA

Do you
come with
an off
switch?

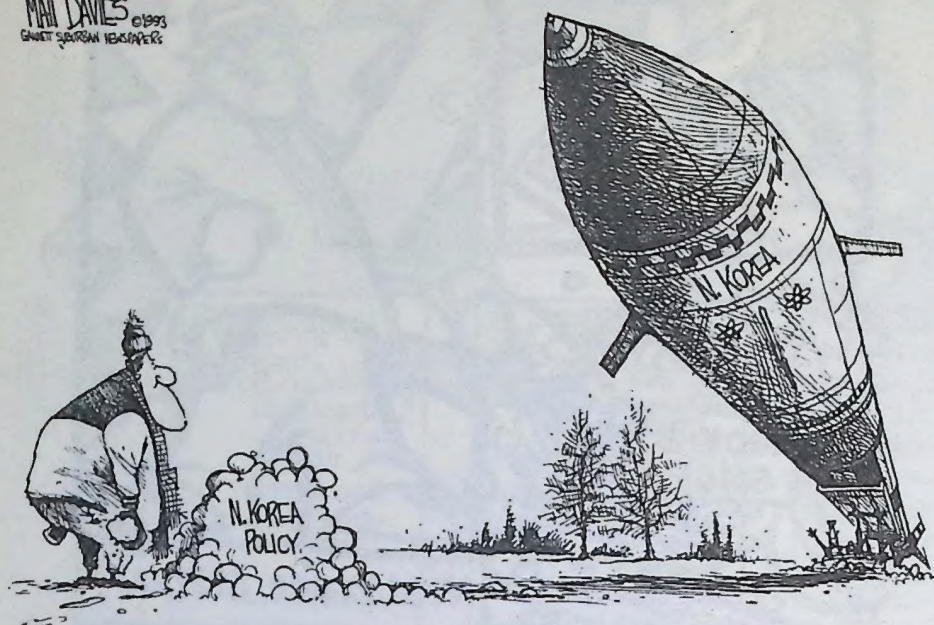
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IN A WORLD OF THEIR OWN

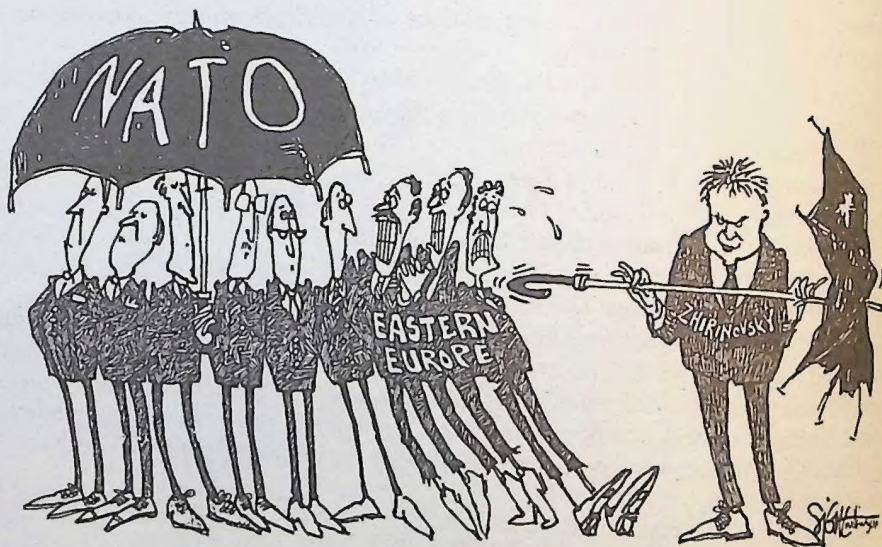
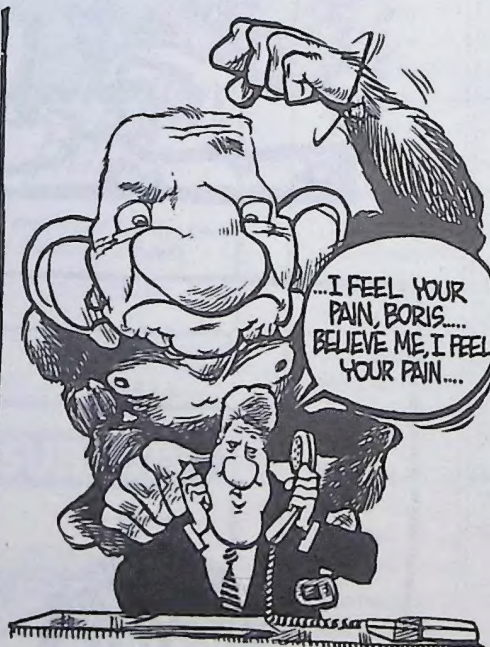
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DALE'S STARS

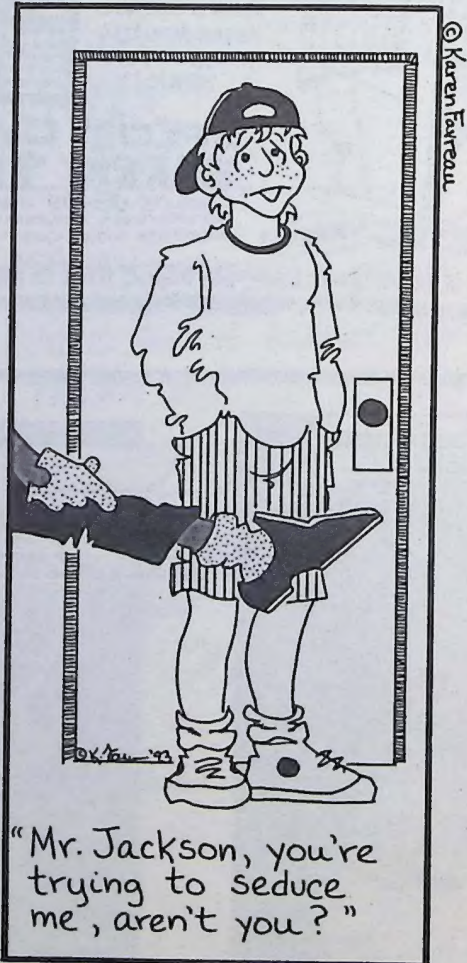
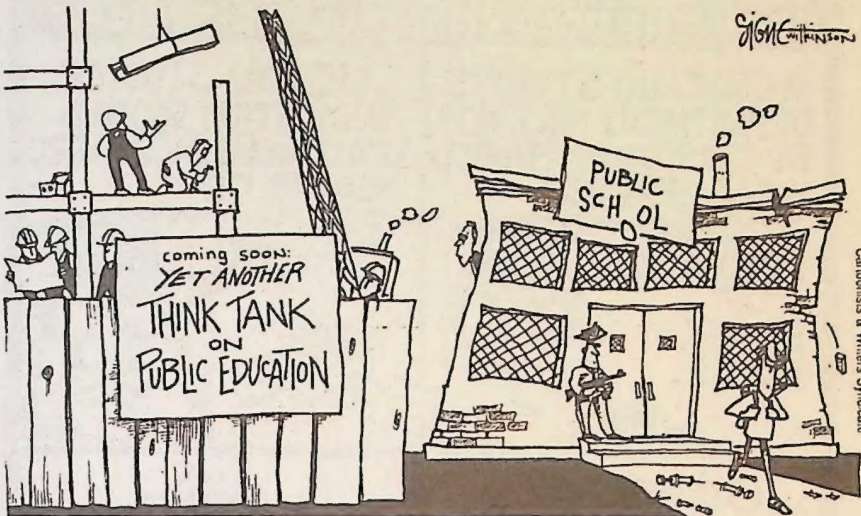
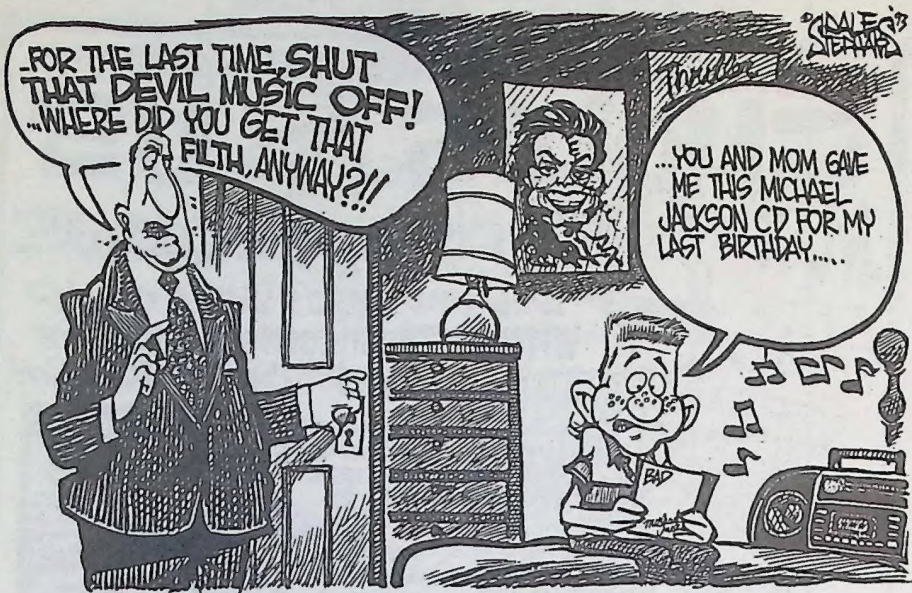


DALE'S STARS



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LALO ALGARAZ ©93+

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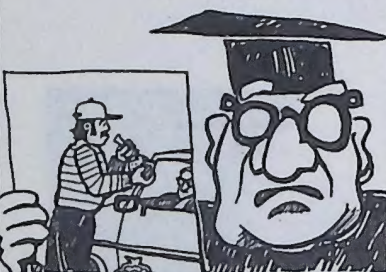
A CHICANO STUDIES DEPARTMENT WILL NOT BE CREATED AS IT WOULD NOT SERVE THE CHICANO POPULATION OF BEVERLY HILLS.



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

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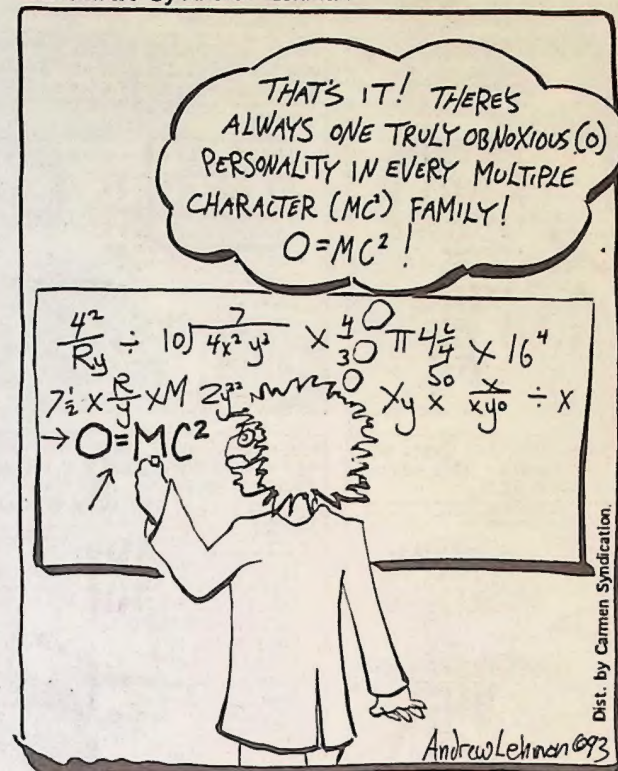
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YOU CAN'T PLEASE EVERYBODY...
POSSIBLE UMASS
MASCOTS:

<p>Mother Theresa</p> 	<p>PROS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non white • female • unarmed 	<p>CONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • she's Pro-life
<p>Barney</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Big , lovable and harmless • loves kids 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • exploited by shameless Capitalists and amoral merchandisers
<p>Grateful Dead Dancing Bear</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has no known gender • symbolizes peace and a carefree lifestyle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In "Mexicali Blues", the Dead sing about exploiting "a girl who's just fourteen..."

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LEHMAN by Andrew Lehman

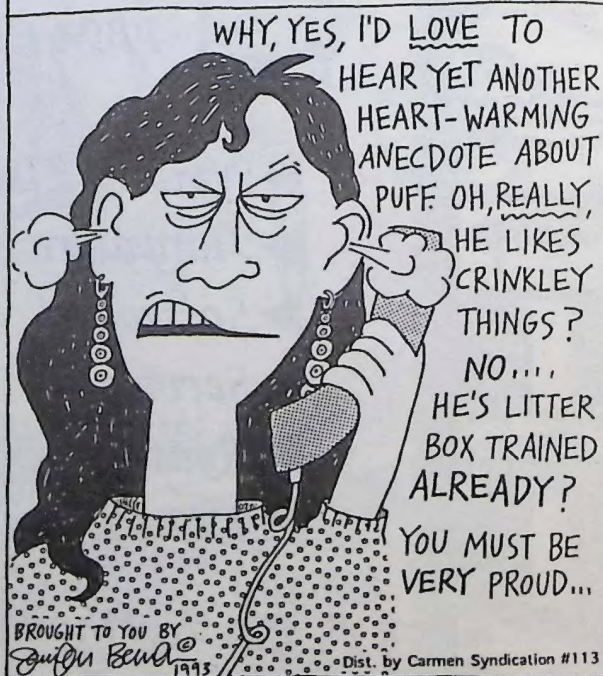


IRVIN GOLDSTEIN DISCOVERS
THE THEORY OF RELATIVES

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BERMAN by Jennifer Berman

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT #7:
FRIENDS DON'T LET FRIENDS TALK
ABOUT THEIR CATS

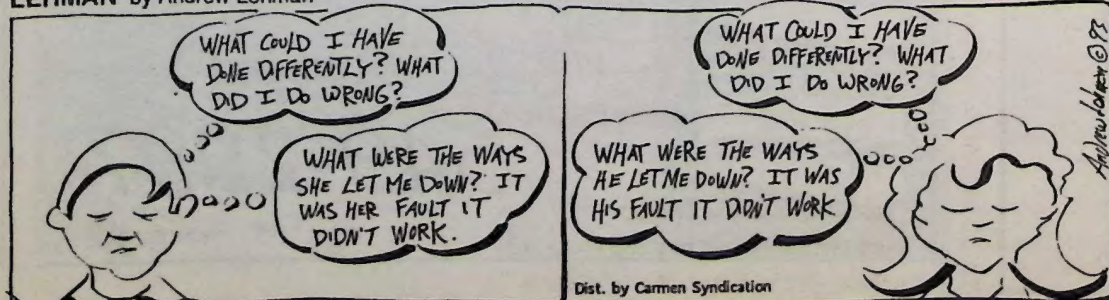


YOU MUST BE
VERY PROUD...

BROUGHT TO YOU BY
Gulfon Bend

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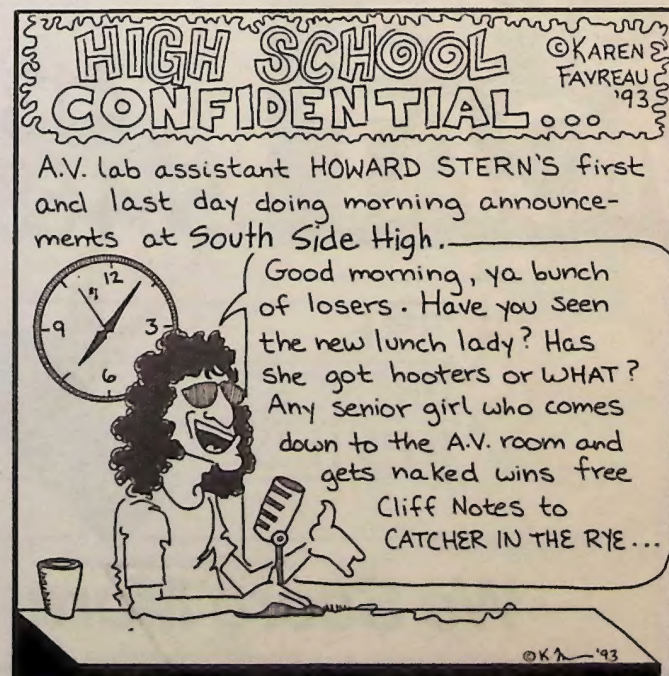
LEHMAN by Andrew Lehman



IT WASN'T UNTIL THE RELATIONSHIP WAS OVER THAT THEY BEGAN TO SHARE THE SAME THOUGHTS + FEELINGS.

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Andreas Schöner

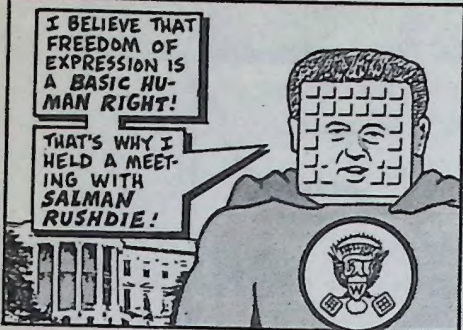


OK 1-93

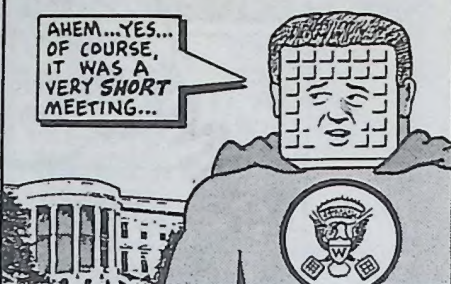
THIS MODERN WORLD BY TOM TOMORROW

THIS MODERN WORLD TM TOMORROW 012-14-93

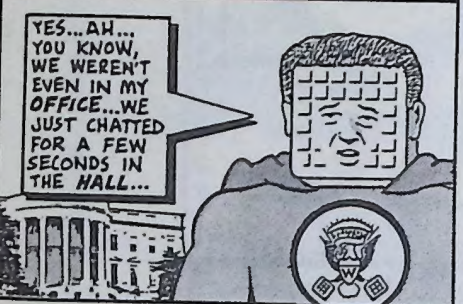
IT'S TIME ONCE AGAIN FOR THE ADVENTURES OF WAFFLE-MAN...



THAT'S VERY ADMIRABLE, WAFFLE-MAN... PARTICULARLY SINCE MANY IN THE MUSLIM WORLD ARE NOW EXTREMELY ANGRY WITH YOU...



WHY, THE HEAD OF IRAN'S JUDICIARY EVEN DECLARED YOU "THE MOST HATED MAN BEFORE ALL THE MUSLIMS IN THE WORLD..."

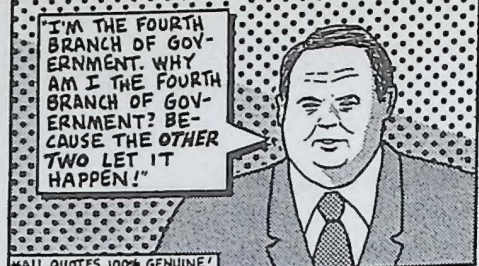


YES, WAFFLE-MAN, WE'VE GOT TO COMMEND YOU FOR TAKING SUCH AN UNWAVERING, PRINCIPLED STAND...CERTAINLY NO ONE CAN QUESTION YOUR STRENGTH OF CHARACTER NOW...

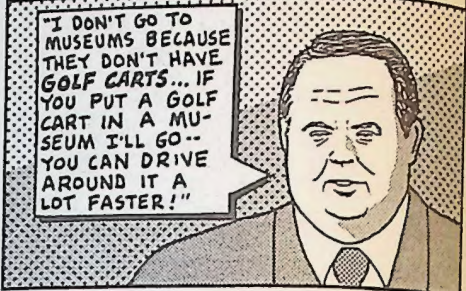


THIS MODERN WORLD TM TOMORROW 012-18-93

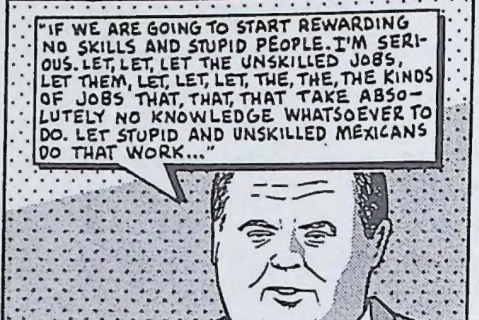
TO BALANCE THIS CARTOON'S PREVIOUS CRITICISMS, WE'RE LETTING RUSH LIMBAUGH SPEAK FOR HIMSELF THIS WEEK...FOR INSTANCE, ON THE SUBJECT OF HIS OWN ENORMOUS INFLUENCE, RUSH HAS THIS TO SAY:



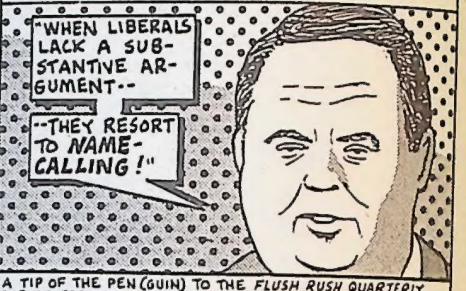
RUSH RECENTLY VISITED NEW YORK'S MUSEUM OF MODERN ART FOR THE FIRST TIME (FOR A SOCIAL FUNCTION)--AND LATER HAD THIS THOUGHT ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF ART AND CULTURE TO A WELL-ROUNDED LIFE:



DURING THE NAFTA BATTLE, RUSH WEIGHED IN WITH THIS WELL-REASONED ARGUMENT...



FINALLY, LET'S CLOSE WITH SOME FOOD FOR THOUGHT FROM THE MAN WHO REGULARLY RAILS AGAINST "FEMINAZIS," "ENVIRONMENTAL WACKOS," AND "UGLO-AMERICANS":



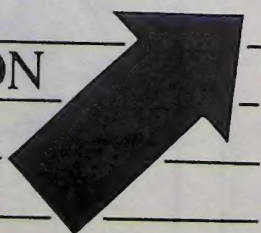
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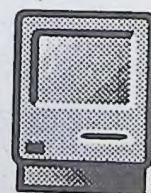
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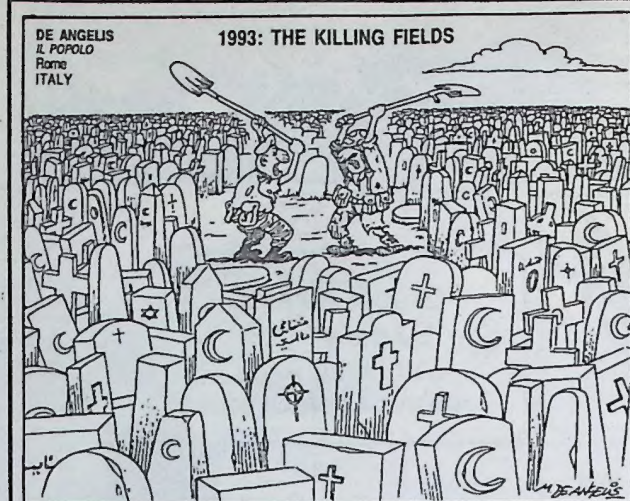
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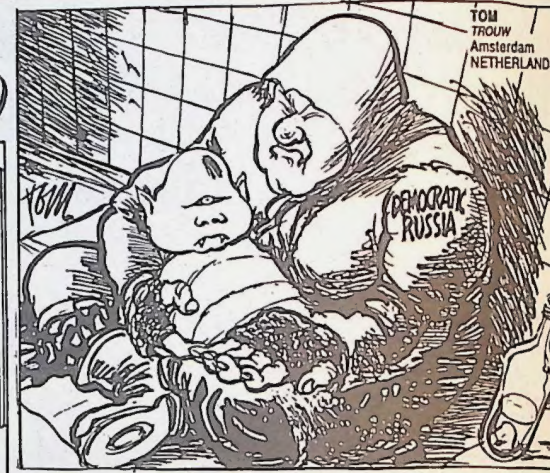
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& Wine
Sundays!**
Montague
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VIEWS OF THE WORLD

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VIEWS of the WORLD

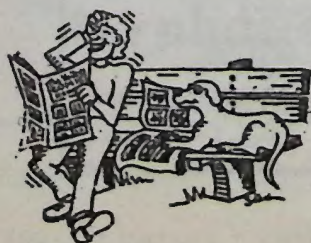


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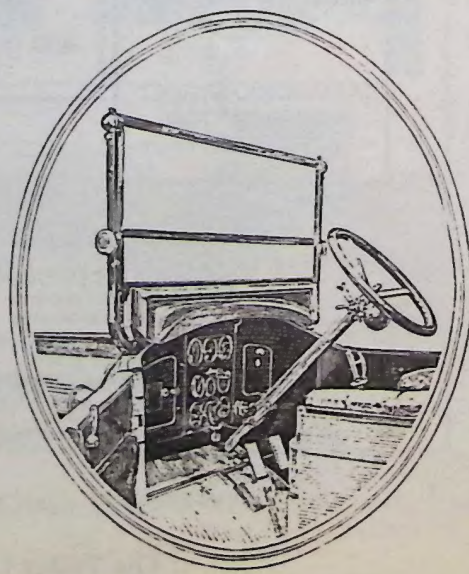
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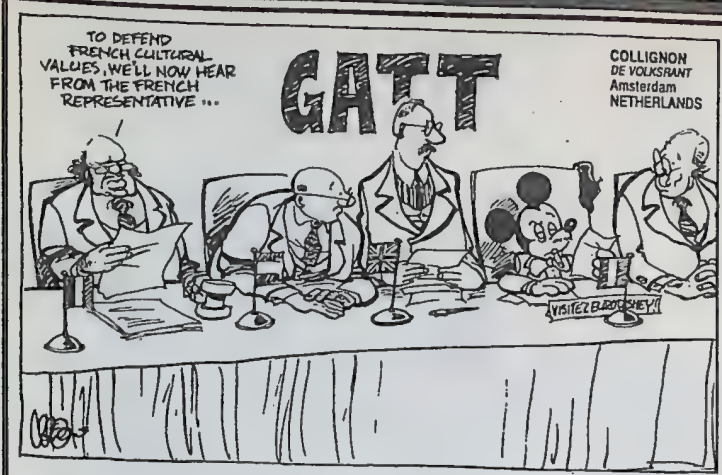


There may be other valleys...
There may be other comics...
There may be other news...
But there's only one
Valley Comic News!!!

The Valley
COMIC
N.E.W.S

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VIEWS OF THE WORLD



RAESIDE
TIMES-COLONIST
Victoria, B.C.
CANADA



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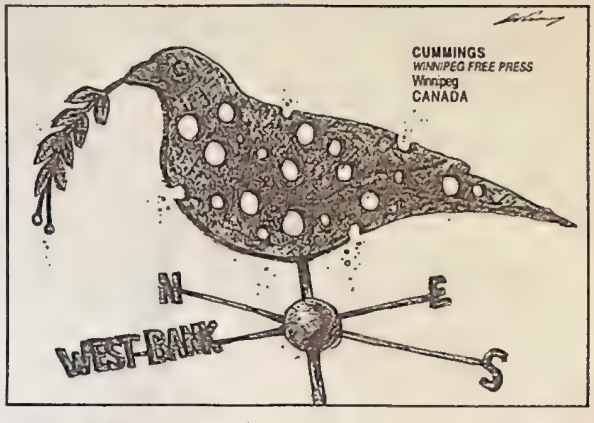


OSWALDO
EXCELSIOR
Mexico City
MEXICO

VIEWS of the WORLD



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Vince Tokarz of Granby, CT., reads *The Valley Comic News* by the docks in Seattle while he waits for his ship to come in

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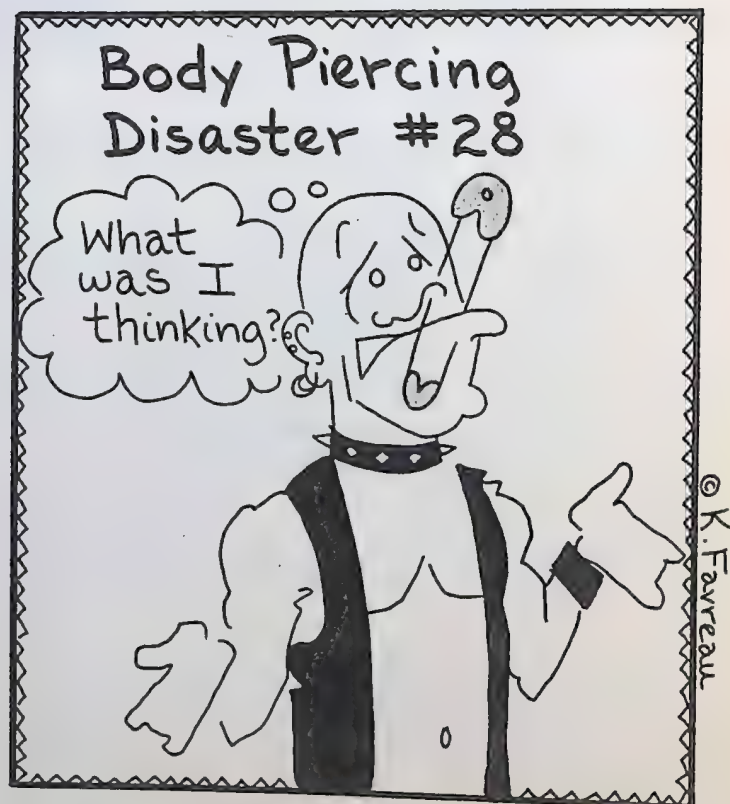
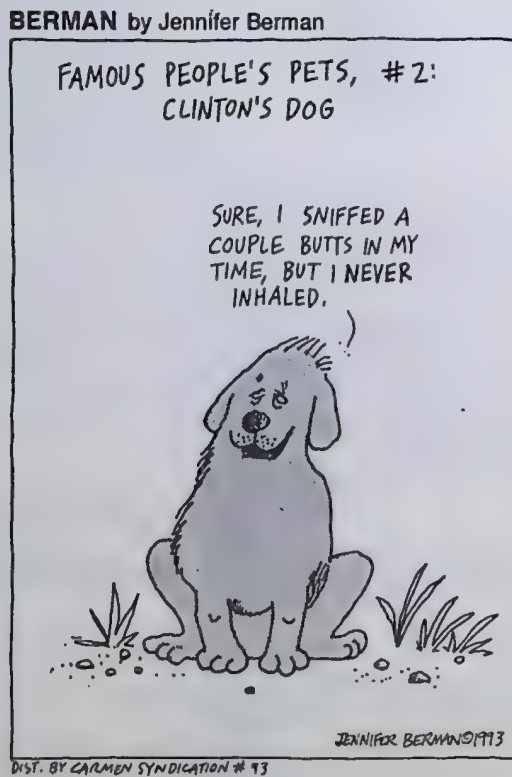
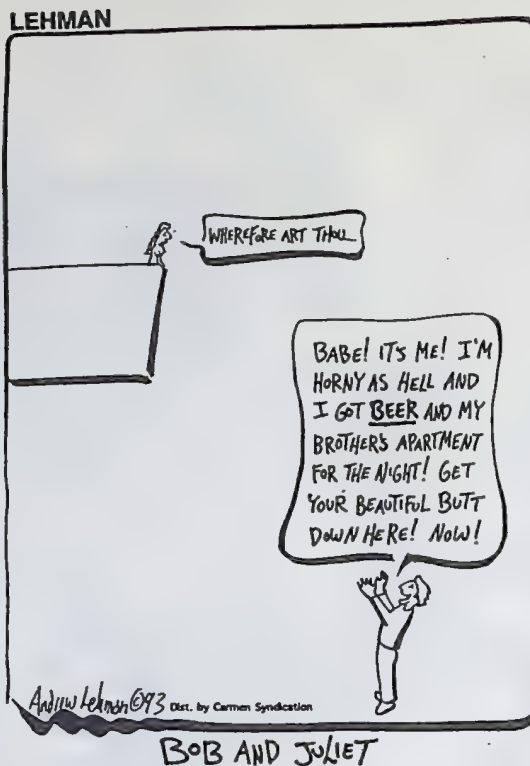
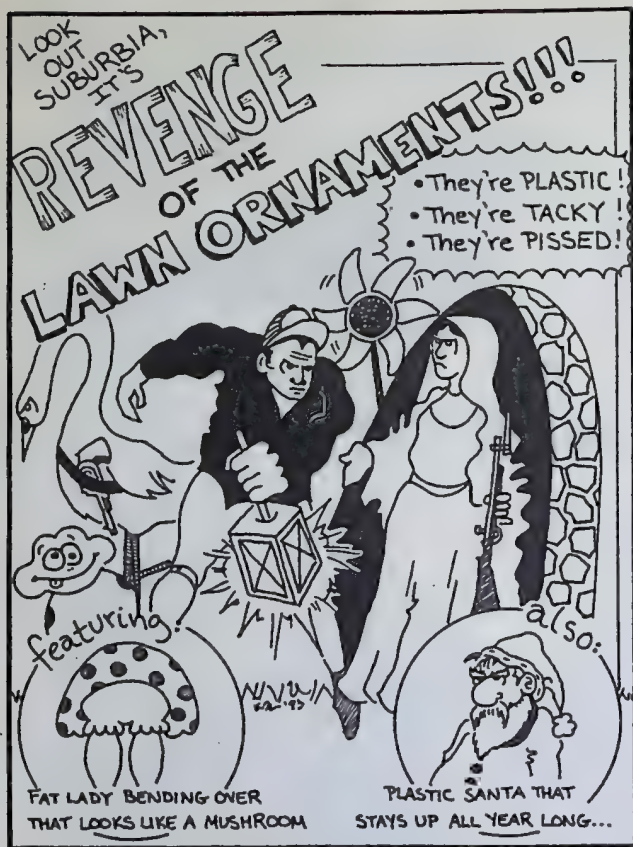
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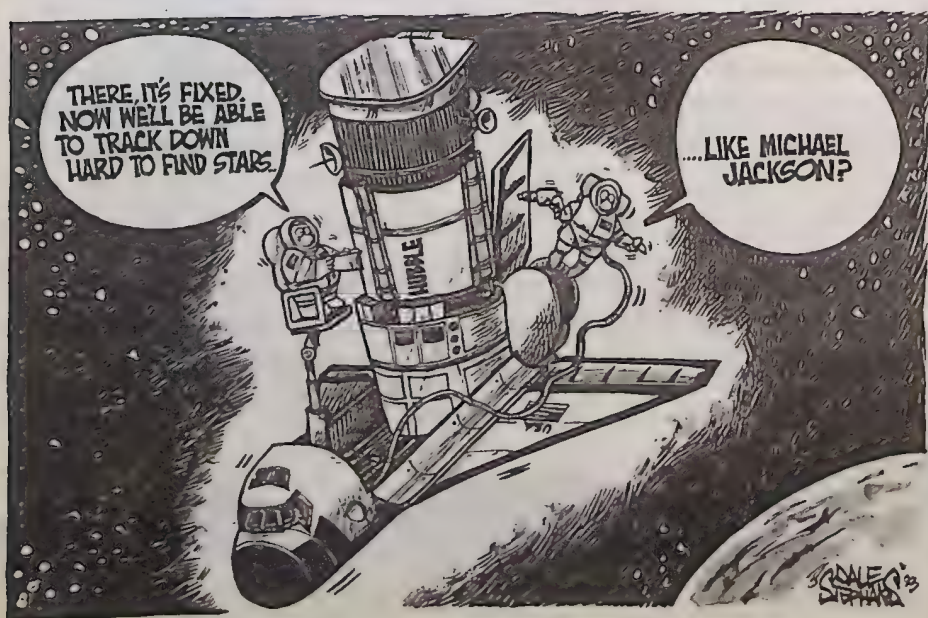
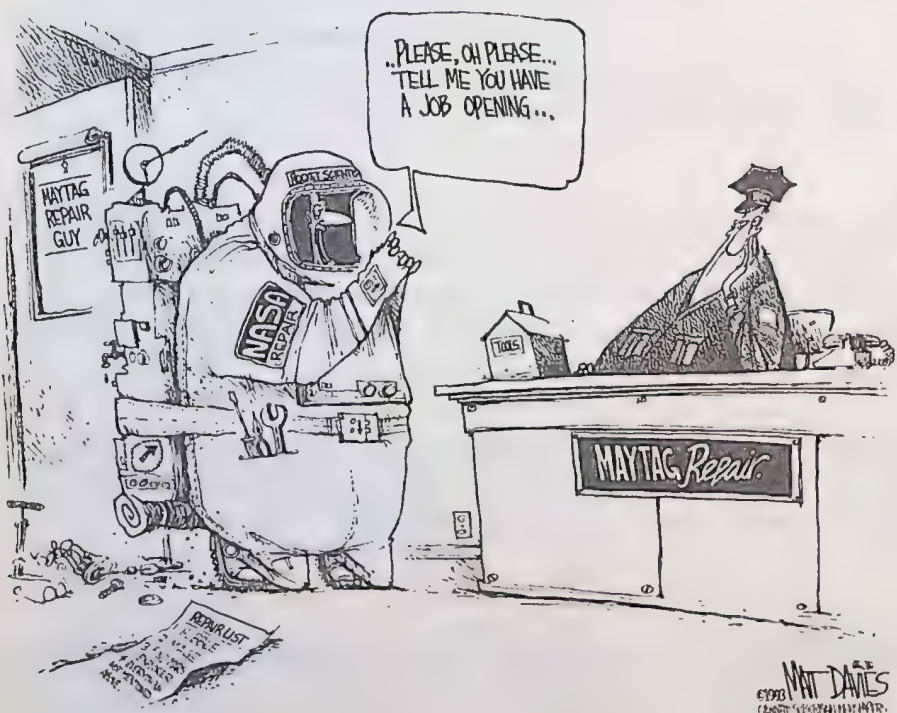


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THU
THIRTEEN

Vertex: Selectrocution **Iron Horse:** Geoff Keezer Trio **Hadley Pub:** new country music w/ DJ Mike Perkins **Seven O's:** karaoke night **Pearl Street:** hip-hop dance music by Spin, Inc.

FRI
FOURTEEN

Pearl Street: top 40 dance music w/ DJ Bob **Bay State Hotel:** Soup, Blair's Carriage **Charlemont Inn:** Chess Kings **Green River Cafe:** Mentos **Vertex:** Reggae Jam w/ New Horizon **Peking Garden/Humor Works:** showcase & open mic **Seven O's:** Flipside **Hadley Pub:** Big Time Band w/ Jimmy Johnson **Vertex:** Operation Mind Crime **Iron Horse:** Blues Mamas — Shirlee Lewis Expeereance, Toni Lynn Washington Band

SAT
FIFTEEN

Vertex: Selectrocution **Seven O's:** Flipside **Hadley Pub:** Florida Evans Band **Charlemont Inn:** Riverfront Band **Iron Horse:** Chris Smither **Northampton Center for the Arts:** The Noteable Performers present The Sorcerer's Apprentice & 3 shorter plays **Pearl Street:** J. Geils Blues Time (J. Geils & Magic Dick) **Bay State Hotel:** Hoolapopper, Slughog, Sugarbitch **Porter-Phelps-Huntington House:** "A Winter Gospel Gala"— Horace Clarence Boyer, Harmony, A.C. Robinson, The Chosen Few, Benjamin Davis

SUN
SIXTEEN

Iron Horse: Phoebe Legere **Hotel Northampton:** open mic **Northampton Brewery:** Rob Skelton, The Little Bollocks **Vertex:** Vital Remains, Lachrymator, Exhumed, Desolate **Seven O's:** open mic **Northampton Center for the Arts:** The Noteable Performers present The Sorcerer's Apprentice & 3 shorter plays

MON
SEVENTEEN

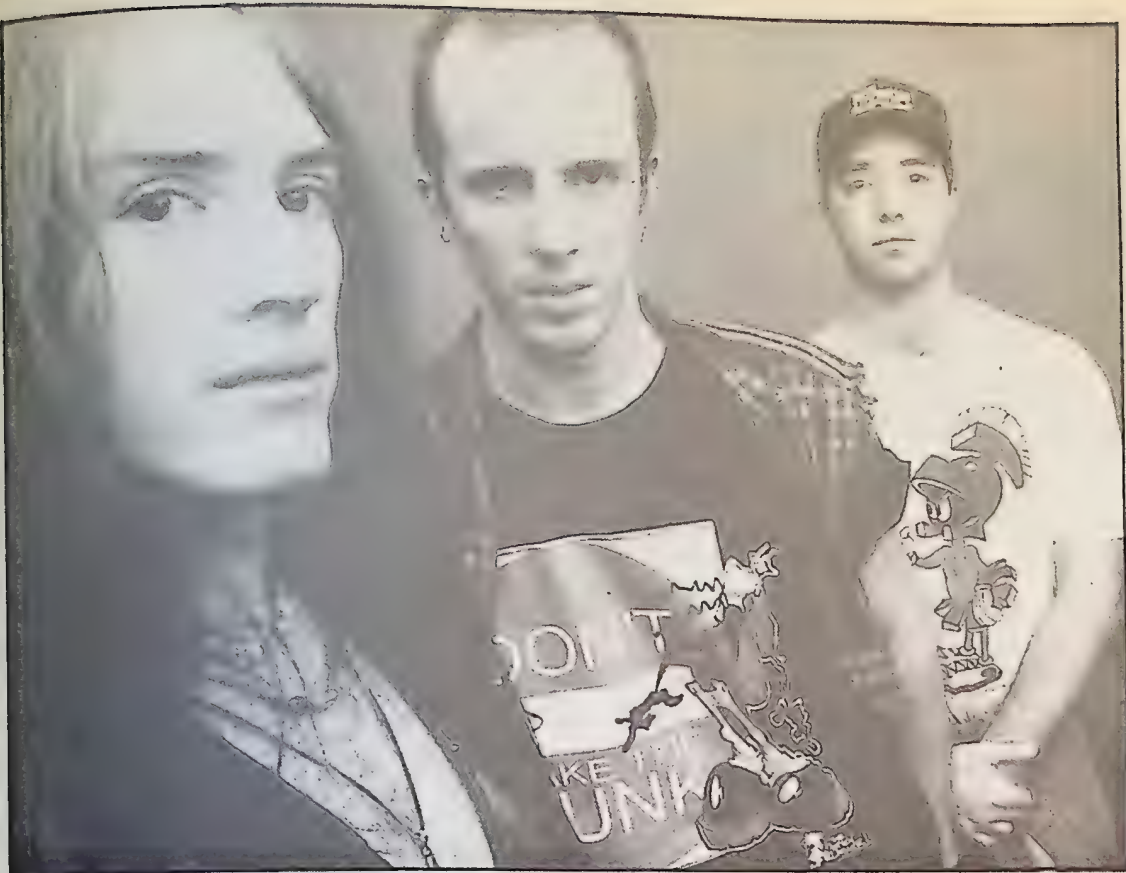
Bay State Hotel: Blue Monday, w/ Ed Vadas & The Fabulous Heavyweights **Vertex:** Gay Nite w/ DJ Steve **Iron Horse:** Clarence Gatemouth Brown

TUE
EIGHTEEN

Bay State Hotel: Bay State Jazz — (no cover) **Northampton Brewery:** open mic **Iron Horse:** Evening of Amherst Songwriters — The Flying Alligators (Varsh & Jim), Ben Demerath **Hadley Pub:** Stuart's open mic **Northampton Center for the Arts at Green St. Cafe:** guest chef night — Carol & Craig Melin **Amherst College:** Patty Larkin, John Gorka, Cheryl Wheeler, Cliff Eberhardt

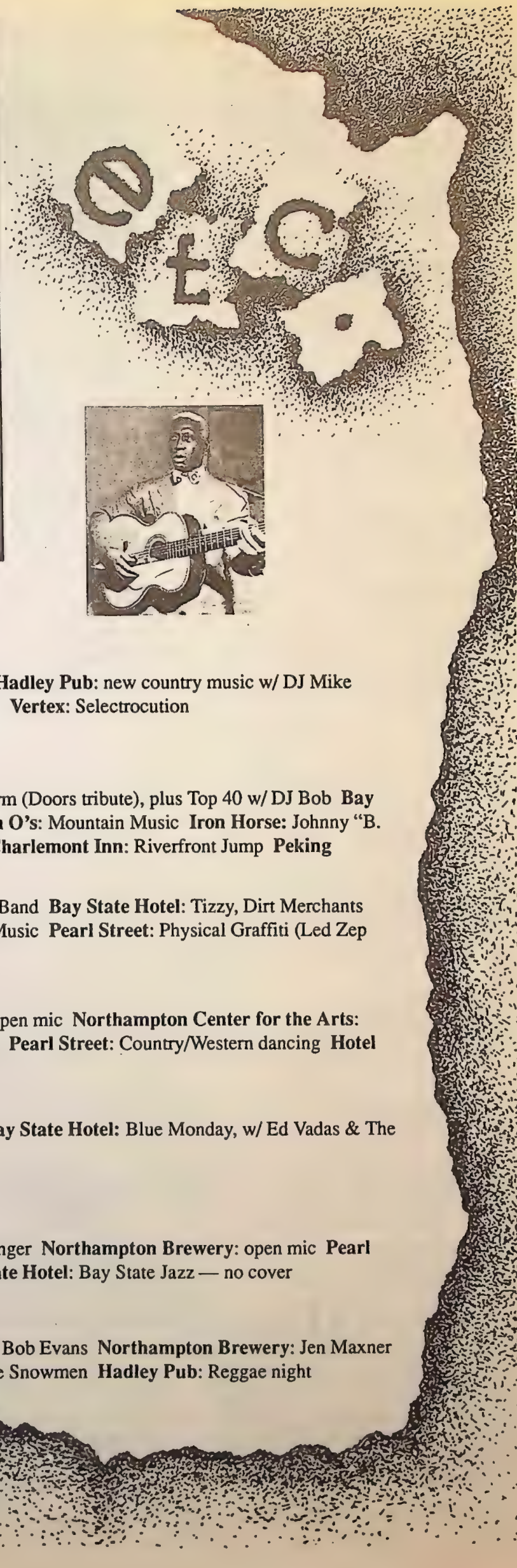
WED
NINETEEN

Hadley Pub: Reggae night **Pearl Street:** Gay Night — dancing to music by Spin, Inc. **Northampton Brewery:** Amy Fairchild **Bay State Hotel:** Lonely Guys Tribute — Big Bad Bollocks as Tom Jones, The Wedgies as Neil Diamond, Scud Mountain Boys as Glenn Campbell **Iron Horse:** Marshall Crenshaw **Seven O's:** Jud & The



Birthmark, resting between gigs

Tobey photo



THU TWENTY

Seven O's: karaoke night **Iron Horse:** Paradise City Jazz Band **Hadley Pub:** new country music w/ DJ Mike Perkins **Pearl Street:** 18+ hip-hop dancing to music by Spin, Inc. **Vertex:** Selectrocution

FRI TWENTYONE

Green River Cafe: Skip Gorman **Pearl Street:** Riders on the Storm (Doors tribute), plus Top 40 w/ DJ Bob **Bay State Hotel:** Green Magnet School, Dieselmeat, The Tulips **Seven O's:** Mountain Music **Iron Horse:** Johnny "B. Bad" Johnson **Hadley Pub:** Big Time Band w/ Jimmy Johnson **Charlemont Inn:** Riverfront Jump **Peking Garden/Humor Works:** showcase & open mic

SAT TWENTYTWO

Charlemont Inn: The Barnstormers **Hadley Pub:** Florida Evans Band **Bay State Hotel:** Tizzy, Dirt Merchants **Green River Cafe:** Molly-O & Deep Fun **Seven O's:** Mountain Music **Pearl Street:** Physical Graffiti (Led Zep tribute) **Iron Horse:** Betty

SUN TWENTYTHREE

Northampton Brewery: Steel Waves, Spirit House **Seven O's:** open mic **Northampton Center for the Arts:** "Folktales from Mother Russia" — The Enchanted Circle Theater **Pearl Street:** Country/Western dancing **Hotel Northampton:** open mic

MON TWENTYFOUR

Iron Horse: Acoustic Junction **Vertex:** Gay Nite, w/ DJ Steve **Bay State Hotel:** Blue Monday, w/ Ed Vadas & The Fabulous Heavyweights

TUE TWENTYFIVE

Green River Cafe: open mic, w/ Rob Skelton **Iron Horse:** Badfinger **Northampton Brewery:** open mic **Pearl Street:** Type O Negative **Hadley Pub:** Stuart's open mic **Bay State Hotel:** Bay State Jazz — no cover

WED TWENTYSIX

Pearl Street: Gay Night w/ music by Spin, Inc. **Bay State Hotel:** Bob Evans **Northampton Brewery:** Jen Maxner **Vertex:** "The Calendar Men" — male revue **Seven O's:** Jud & The Snowmen **Hadley Pub:** Reggae night

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EARTHWEEK: A DIARY OF THE PLANET

Fierce Floods

Thousands of people in northwest Europe who spent Christmas in community centers returned home to pick their ruined possessions out of contaminated water and mud. Rivers swollen by the worst flooding in decades retreated in the most-affected areas of the Netherlands, eastern France, and low-lying parts of Germany and Belgium. With animal corpses, manure, and oil fouling the water in many areas, residents were warned to be careful during their cleanup.

The storms responsible for the inundations in northwest Europe also brought flooding as far east as Russia and Ukraine, and caused a brief hailstorm before and after midnight Mass at the Vatican's St. Peter's Basilica on Christmas Eve.

Holiday Snows

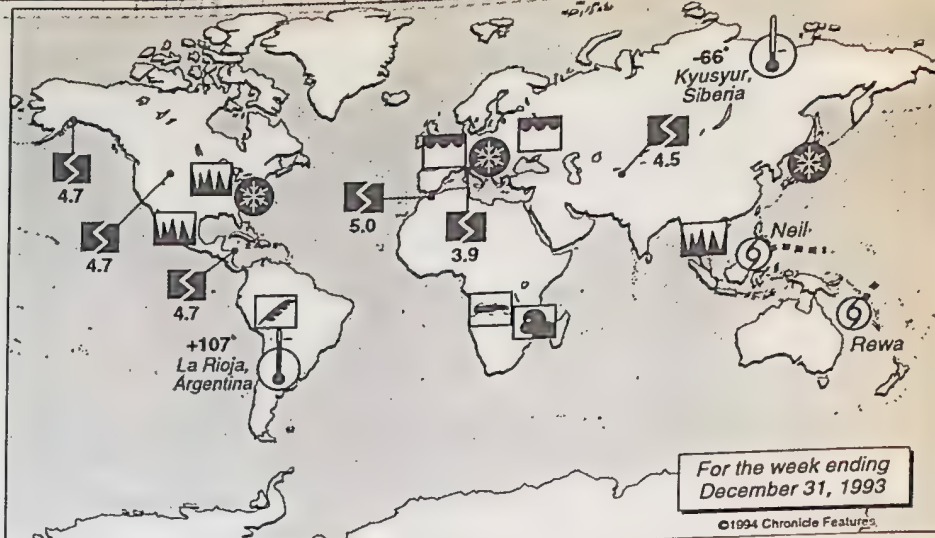
A severe winter storm swept northern Japan, disrupting land and air traffic while dumping as much as 31 inches of snow within 24 hours.

In Hungary, blinding snow and strong winds forced the country's major border crossings with Austria and Slovakia to close. Hundreds of cars and trucks were stuck in deep snow, and snowplows were unable to keep mountain passes open due to the rapid accumulation.

Washington's National Airport suspended operations during a heavy snowstorm that brought a variety of messy, winter conditions to a wide area of the eastern U.S.

Earthquakes

A sharp quake cracked walls near its epicenter in southeast Spain, and caused buildings to sway in Madrid. Earth movements were felt also in Wyoming, southern Alaska, northern Italy, eastern Uzbekistan, and on the Caribbean island of Roatan.



Arctic Chills

Freezing weather in Mexico's northern states claimed at least 92 lives during the last three weeks of December. From Tijuana to Ciudad Juarez, most of the victims were the elderly and infants who suffered fatal respiratory complications brought on by the arctic cold wave.

Icy winds knifing into the tropics from Siberia left Thais shivering in the coldest weather in nearly half a century. Authorities in northern Chiang Mai Province set up an emergency center and issued appeals for thousands of blankets and winter clothes to protect villagers unaccustomed to the near-freezing temperatures.

The most severe cold blast of the season sent temperatures plunging to 40 below zero across the upper midwestern United States. Five people were reported to have died in the widespread cold spell, including two homeless men in New York.

Lost Tribe

An Indian tribe whose last warrior was killed by a panther in the Amazon rain forest is looking for someone to marry a teenage girl and keep their culture from dying out. Two elderly couples and three girls are the only remaining members of the Juma Indians of the western Amazon, according to a report in the Jornal do Brazil. There were 300 Jumas in 1940. Since then, the tribe has been the victim of four massacres by loggers. The last one, in 1973, killed 31.

Tropical Storms

Tropical storm Neil killed at least 29 people during a rampage across the southern and central Philippines. Neil brought the tally to 32 cyclones to hit the country this year, surpassing the previous record of 30 in 1964.

Tropical cyclone Rewa gained strength as it moved over the warm waters of the northern Coral Sea.

Locusts

Swarms of red locusts which have invaded border regions of Zambia's southern and western provinces have been brought under control after widespread spraying of insecticide.

Monkey Attack

A lightning-fast raid by long-tailed monkeys caused pandemonium during Christmas celebrations at a Kenyan hospital. The animals leapt through the windows from the garden of Busia hospital in the west of the country, snatching fruit and sweets which had been brought as presents for the patients. One monkey grabbed a syringe from a nurse, while others even climbed into beds and emptied cupboards.

Additional Sources: U.S. Climate Analysis Center, Fiji Weather Bureau, Thailand Meteorological Department, Mexican Meteorological Service, U.S. Earthquake Information Center, and the World Meteorological Organization.

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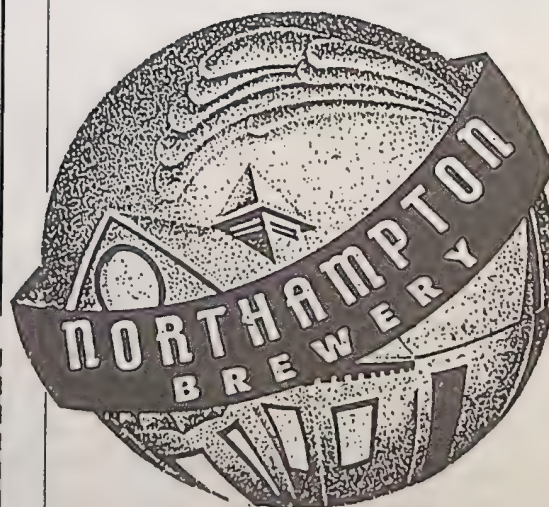
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EARTHWEEK: A DIARY OF THE PLANET

By Steve Newman


Midwinter Misery

 A blast of arctic air joined with moisture from the Atlantic to produce a bitter winter storm which brought much of the eastern U.S. and Maritime Canada to a standstill. Snow and freezing rain delayed millions of air and rail travelers, and closed schools, businesses, and airports in the region. Major highways in Quebec were partially closed after three people died in a multiple-car pileup on the Trans-Canada Highway. A massive power failure forced thousands of residents in West Virginia to huddle together and burn firewood to keep warm in the midwinter freeze.

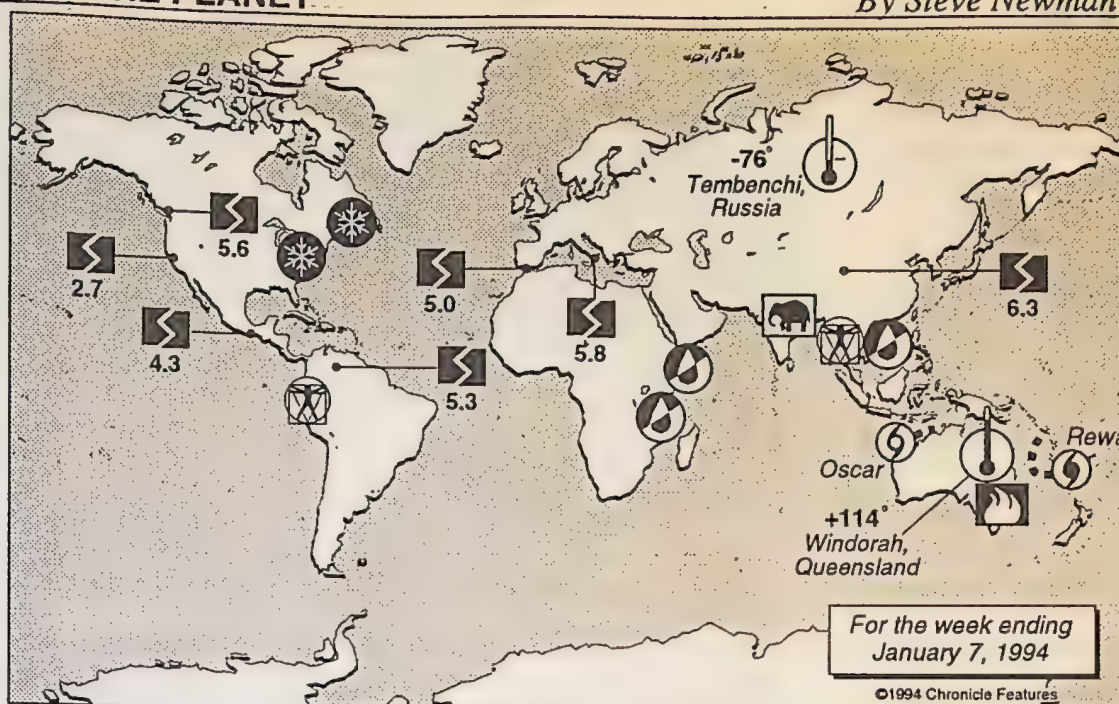
Summer Fires

 A state of emergency was declared in New South Wales after an eastern Australia heat wave sparked more than 90 wildfires. At least three people were killed and more than 1,160 square miles of bush were destroyed. Low humidity and temperatures soaring to over 105 degrees made the firestorms the most severe in the region since 1968. Hundreds of army personnel joined firefighters to battle the blazes, especially around metropolitan Sydney, where several neighborhoods were threatened.


Earthquakes

 China's disaster-plagued county of Gonghe, in Qinghai Province, was rocked by a magnitude 6.3 temblor which injured three people when their houses were wrecked. The same area was struck by a stronger quake in 1990, and it suffered a devastating flood when a dam burst last August.


Earth movements also were felt in southern Spain, southern Italy, southwest British Columbia, Mexico's Oaxaca coast, Venezuela, and the city of San Francisco.



Tropical Storms

 The tropical cyclone season heated up in the southern hemisphere with two storms spinning off opposite ends of the Australian continent. Cyclone Rawa brought high surf to the northern Queensland coast, and made New Caledonia the wettest place on Earth, with more than 12 inches of rainfall. Cyclone Oscar passed off the coast of Western Australia.


Famine

 Even as parts of southern Vietnam are recovering from the flooding effects of several typhoons, 20,000 highland tribesmen in the center of the country face famine due to a prolonged drought. About 20 villages in Quang Tri Province are suffering the worst food shortage in memory. Their inhabitants are trying to survive on tropical plants, herbs, and the roots of wild banana trees.

Tanzania's agriculture minister


warned that his country faces a devastating famine following the failure of seasonal rains. Crops are also withering in southern Somalia, renewing the specter of another round of hunger in the beleaguered nation.

World Health

 A new outbreak of cholera in Ecuador has killed nine children in rural areas of Esmeraldas Province. Local hospitals reported 58 new cases of the disease during the week — the eighth time that cholera has appeared in the last two years. More than 370 people have died from the disease in the South American country since 1992.

Cholera struck more than 900 Cambodians in Battambang and Kompong Cham provinces, killing 65. The U.N. International Children's Emergency Fund is working with local and national authorities to increase hygiene awareness and combat the disease.

Elephantine Epic

 A herd of about 50 disoriented elephants thundered across eastern India after being driven from their habitat in the Jaldapara wildlife refuge by wildfires and hunger. Hundreds of Indians tried to turn the marauders away from their path toward Calcutta with tribal drums, blazing torches, a phalanx of trucks — and even a few kind words. "We are trying everything to send the poor elephants back," said West Bengal environment minister Banamali Roy, reflecting the sympathy that many felt for the huge animals. This, even after the pachyderms had rampaged through villages and killed at least six people. The beasts were finally aimed toward their teak forest sanctuary, and were seen munching bananas as they ambled back into the woods.

Additional Sources: Australian Bureau of Meteorology, U.S. Climate Analysis Center, U.S. Earthquake Information Center, and the World Meteorological Organization.

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TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT by L.M. Boyd

Q. Is there any truth to the old notion that primitive man tossed his chosen woman over his shoulder and hauled her off to his cave?

A. In fact, some scholars are now saying it was *her* cave, and when he showed up, he only stayed until she told him to get out.

A regulation football conforms to The Rule of 28" — 28" circumference at its fattest part when it's inflated to 28 pounds of air pressure.

A lunar eclipse would be a solar eclipse if you were on the moon.

Your "ring around the collar" doesn't necessarily come from dirt on your neck. Your head movement causes friction against your shirt collar, which creates static electricity in the fabric, which attracts dust particles out of the air.

Abe Lincoln referred rooster fights.

Health researchers have discovered that the men with the highest levels of testosterone are, in order: actors, doctors, and trial lawyers.

The writer Martin H. Fischer observed: "Minorities are the stars of the firmament; majorities are the darkness in which they float."

Q. How come the Army doesn't put more vegetables in its Meal-Ready-to-Eat (MRE) that's issued to field soldiers?

A. Vegetables activate the digestive tract more than is deemed advisable in combat.

Alden's Law states that the giving away of baby clothes and cribs is a major cause of pregnancy.

Camera studies of the great March Blizzard of '93 along the Eastern Seaboard showed 5,100 lightning bolts an hour.

When your granddad was a lad, he and everybody else wanted a real "Railroad Watch," touted as the finest precision instrument of the early 20th century. Such a watch then sold for about half the price of a new car.

Q. What's the longest one-syllable word in English?
A. Squirreled.

Mice usually walk next to walls because they're very nearsighted. They use their whiskers to help guide themselves along the wall.

Armed robbers held up a bank in Brussels, Belgium recently, and right in the middle of the heist, a 27-year-old teller tried to obey the gunmen's orders, but failed: she threw up her hands, lay down on the floor, and had a baby.

Researchers report that the food most people are likely to have in their refrigerator is iceberg lettuce.

It was 1991 that artificial Christmas trees finally outsold real ones. One report this year (1993) has real trees back in the lead.

Q. How many pyramids are there still in Egypt?
A. 38.

Marine researchers claim that halibut tend to remain calm in a crisis while salmon are likely to panic.

"A clockwork orange" is an old Cockney expression for anything bizarre.

Although most animals die when they lose their teeth, a shark may go through 20,000 teeth in its lifetime.

An unlikely seed distributor? Treads on car tires: they transport seeds all over the country.

Q. Is it true that dolphins live in the Amazon river?

A. Yep. Pink ones, with long snouts. Amazon tribespeople hold them in high regard: they eat piranhas.

The wit Oliver Herford defined "diplomacy" as "lying in state."

If you're called "Red" on account of your hair, your nickname goes way back. At least a thousand years before the famed Eric the Red, "Red" was a nickname given to certain ancient Egyptians.

Bourbon whiskey began when distillers in Bourbon County, Kentucky, tried mixing a little rye into their corn liquor.

Q. What bird dives the deepest?

A. The Emperor penguin — sometimes to a depth of 1,000 feet.

JOE BOB BRIGGS

Have you noticed all the Boyfriend From Hell stories lately?

Boy meets girl. Boy goes home with girl. Boy and girl have sex. Boy thinks it's great. Girl goes, "Nah, I don't think so." Boy calls the next day. Girl says, "Nah, I don't think so."

Boy buys a semi-automatic rifle.

Where do these guys come from? Didn't they go to junior high school, where you get rejected 94 times for every girl that says "Yes"? Haven't they ever seen a Cary Grant movie? If so, they would know that you don't get many dates by screaming "I own you!" at a woman. They would know that, as soon as she says she doesn't like something, *you don't do it*. Ever. If she doesn't like you calling her at work, *you don't call her at work*. And then *maybe*, later, she starts to like you, because you *understood* that she didn't like it.

I mean, we've always had a few loony Boyfriends From Hell, like Eric Roberts in "Star '80." But they were always certifiable psychos. Now we've got guys that are otherwise normal, working down at the gas station, entering bass-fishing tournaments, singing in the Baptist Church choir, and then one day we get a phone call and find out that Ralph is barricaded inside the high school gym and he has Cindy tied up with a bomb under her chair, demanding that she spend the rest of her life with him.

In Texas, there used to be a guaranteed solution to the Creep Ex-Boyfriend: a *new* boyfriend. That way, if the old guy refuses to go away, leaves annoying messages on your answering machine, whatever, then the girl doesn't have to deal with it. The guy calls him back, and they settle it with Guy Talk. Guy Talk is always much more efficient than

Girl-Guy Talk, because Guy Talk can only end in two ways: the guy backs off, or the two guys fight. If the two guys fight, they usually bond during the fight. And, in fact, sometimes they realize that the girl is *enjoying* the fact that they're fighting over her, and so they *both* dump her.

Anyhow, my question is, have we always had this many weird beard stalkers driving up and down the streets of America, ready to put a bullet through Tiffany's head to prove how much he loves her? Or is this a nineties thing?

I think I might know part of this problem: these guys don't have enough *male* friends. Because the only way you could go *that* crazy over any woman is that you've bought into some kind of ideal Fantasy Woman thing where you think that, if only you can buy a trailer house in Houston with this woman, she'll satisfy every

need you ever have. You don't realize that, six months later, you'll be sitting in that trailer house staring at your payment book from the bank, watching her paint her toenails, thinking, "At least she could *wash the bottoms of her feet* before she does that."

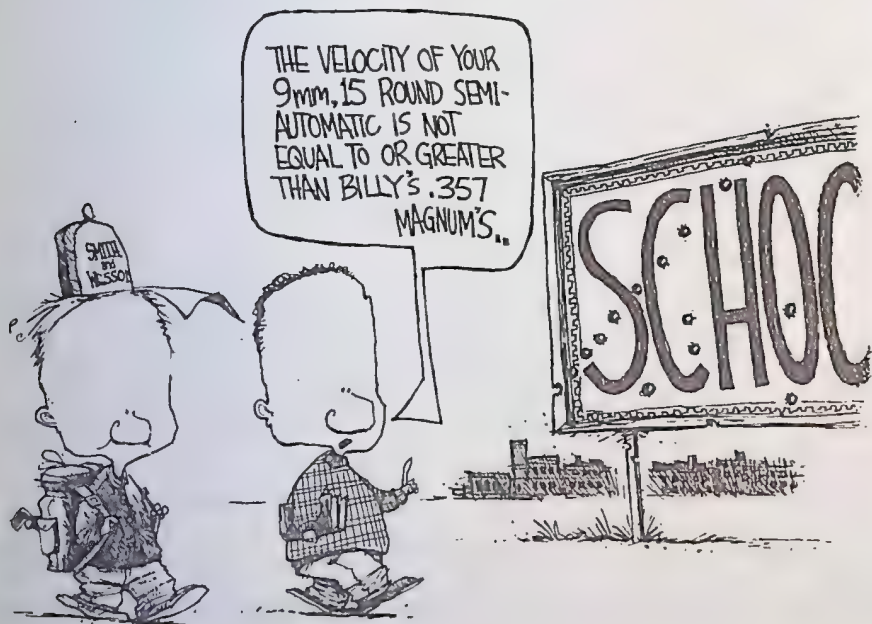
Then again, maybe they're just crazy.

I don't know.

I think we should find out, though, 'cause their numbers are growing at a *scary* rate.

To discuss the meaning of life with Joe Bob, or to get his world-famous newsletter, write Joe Bob Briggs, PO Box 2002, Dallas, TX 75221. Joe Bob's FAX line is always open: 214-368-3210. COPYRIGHT CREATORS SYNDICATE, INC.

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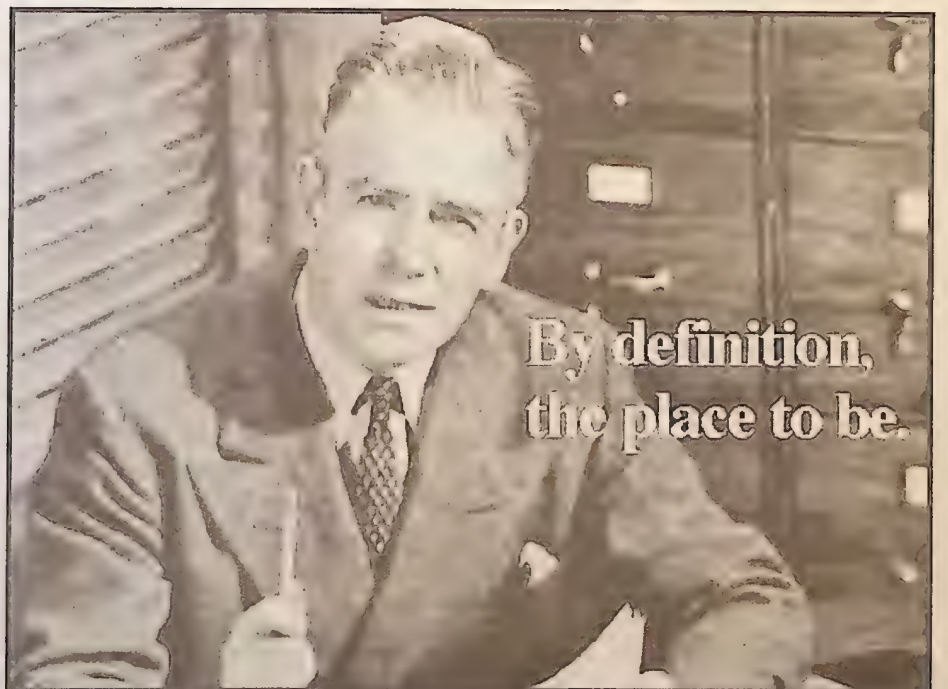
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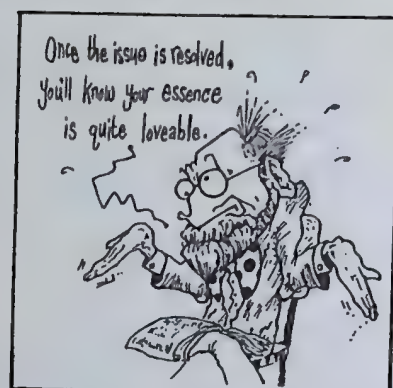
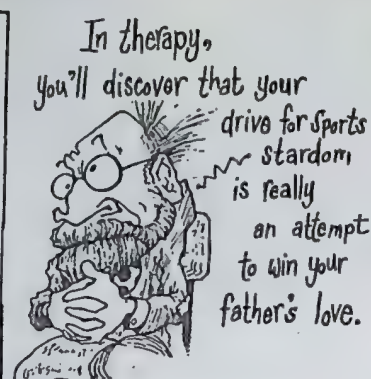
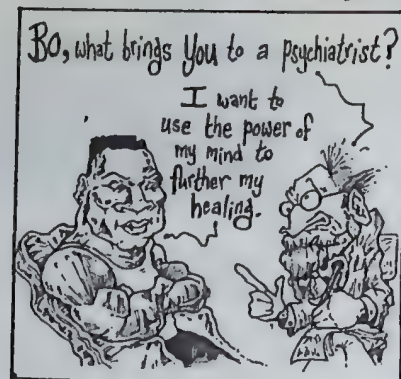
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Star Shrinker by Dr. Rowdy illustrations: K. Seidel.



THINK'R



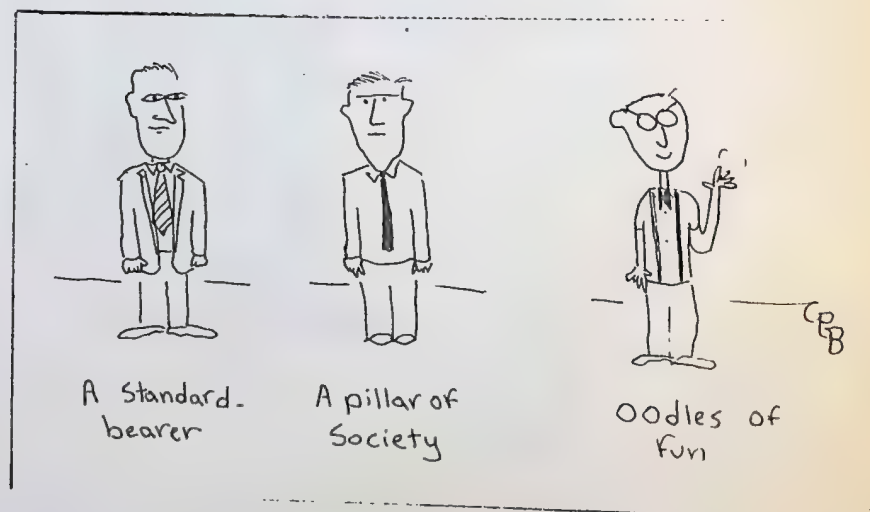
CHICKEN LITTLEASAUROS

Kilroy the Narcoleptic Weasel

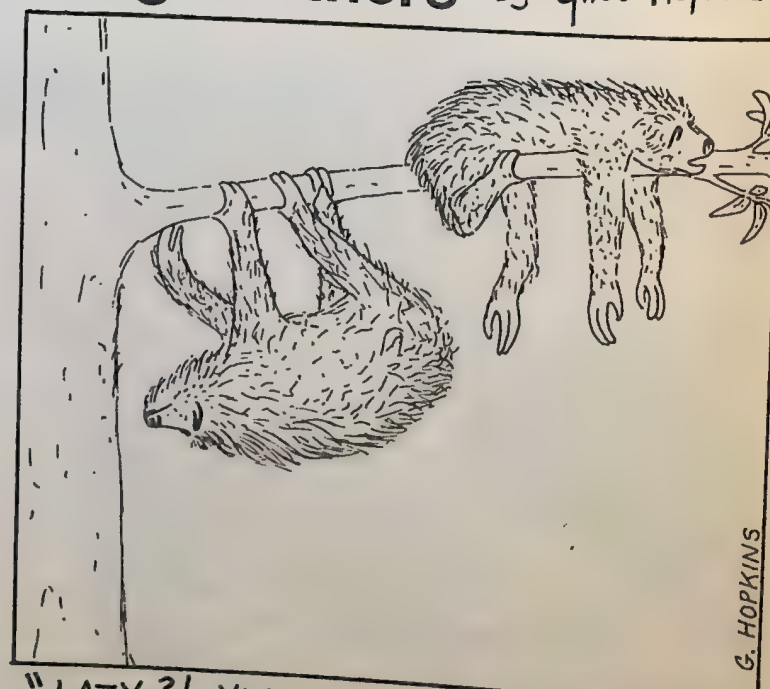
by Mark Tennenhouse



Ballon View by Paul Phipps

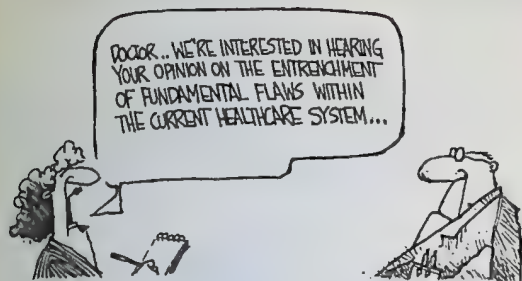


dog feathers by Giles Hopkins



"LAZY?! YOU THINK I'M LAZY? MAYBE A LITTLE SLOTHFUL, BUT SINCE WHEN IS THAT A SIN?"

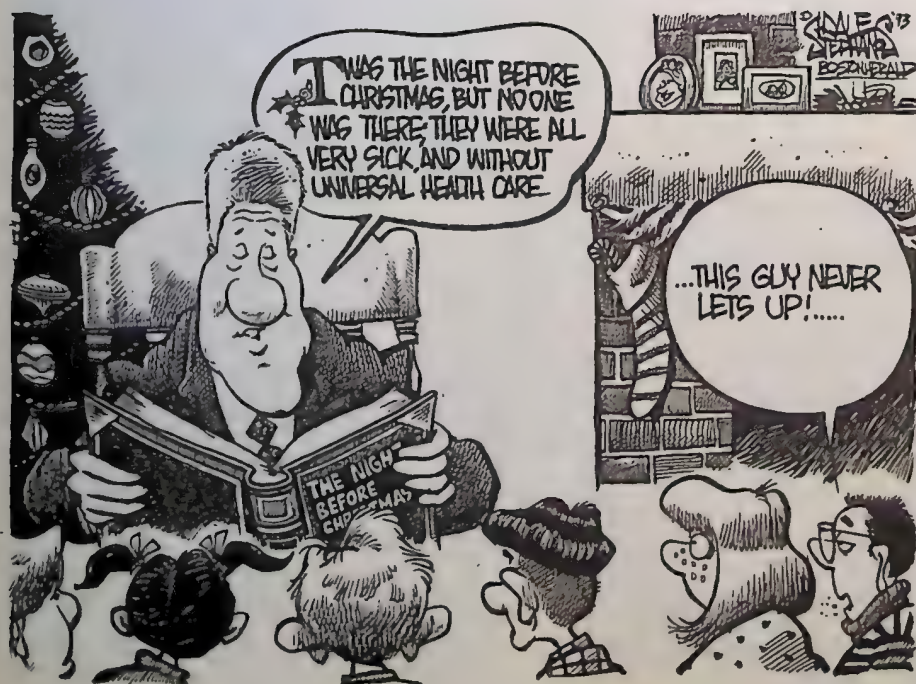
SAY AAAAGH!



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TONIGHT'S TV PICKS

by Leo (TV) Baldwin

NEWS AND TALK SHOWS

SALLY JESSY RAPHAEL: 9 am and 4 am on Channel 4.

Scheduled: People who get a good night's sleep.

JENNY JONES: 9 am on Channel 7 and 6 pm on Channel 9. Scheduled: Children who respect their parents and pitch in around the house.

REGIS AND KATHIE LEE: 9 am on Channel 3 and 4 pm on channel 9. Scheduled: Spricing up your light switches and electrical outlets.

MONTEL WILLIAMS: 5 pm, 12 am, 6 pm and 3 pm on Channel 77; 4 am, 1 am, 9 pm, 7:30 am on channel 14; 8 am, 2 pm and 5 pm on Channel 6. Scheduled: TV talk shows -- Are they becoming overexposed?

MAURY POVICH: 4 am on Channel 7. Scheduled: How to smile like Maury Povich.

DONAHUE: 9 am on Channel 3 and 3 pm on channel 9. Scheduled: The best of Oprah Winfrey.

OPRAH WINFREY: 10 am on Channel 2 and 2 pm on Channel 10. Scheduled: The best of Phil Donahue.

THE TONIGHT SHOW: 11:30 on Channel 4. Scheduled: Dr. Jack Kevorkian and Chevy Chase.

ARSENIO HALL: 3 am cable access Channel 43, Continental Cable System; 4 am cable access Channel 55, Wachusett Cable System (pre-empts Weather Channel). Scheduled: Rick Dees, Pat Sajak, Joan Rivers, Dick Cavett, Chevy Chase.

LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN: 11:30 on Channel 5. Scheduled: Pope John Paul II, U2, President Bill Clinton, The Rolling Stones, Ernest Hemingway, and stupid atomic explosion tricks.

LATE NIGHT WITH CONAN O'BRIEN: 12:35 am on channel 4. Scheduled: No one currently scheduled. Call if you'd like to be on.

MOVIE HIGHLIGHTS

**** **CITIZEN KANE:** 10 pm on Channel 38. Fictionalized biography of William Randolph Hearst in which Kane's mysterious last word ("rosebud") turns out to be nothing more than his childhood sled. Great tracking and panning shots, though.

**** **UNFORGIVEN:** 8 pm on HBO. Clint Eastwood directs and stars in the Academy Award winner. He manages to kill everybody but himself.

**** **2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY:** 4 pm on AMC. Keir Dullea; Stanley Kubrick directs. Outer space epic that makes about as much sense as Ross Perot. Best viewed under the influence of LSD (drop early). Pot brownies will do in a pinch.

*** **THE CRYING GAME:** 9 pm on Channel 3. The cute black chick has a penis.

** **MY GIRL:** 7 pm on Cinemax. McCauley Culkin dies of bee stings. Very enjoyable. Worth taping to watch his death over and over.

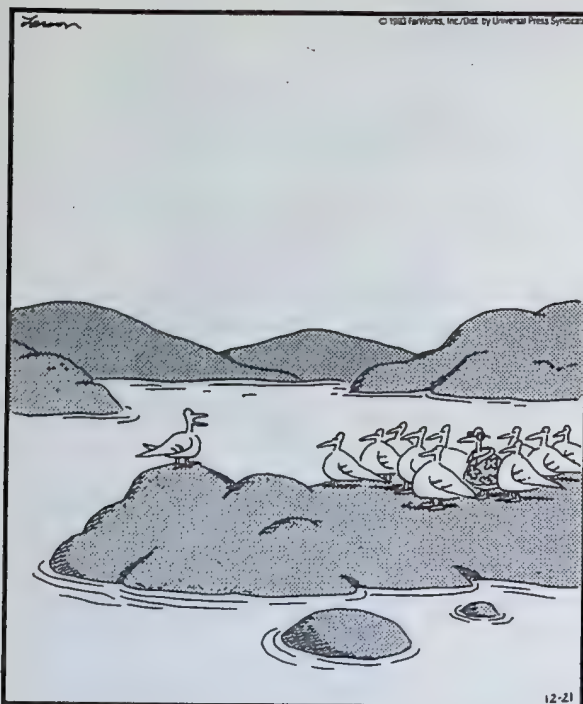
** **IT'S A HORRIBLE LIFE:** noon on the Disney Channel. Re-make of Jimmy Stewart classic. This time the angel pushes George off the bridge. Nice new twist on an old theme.

*** **BONNIE AND CLYDE:** 10 pm on A & E. Lovers go on crime spree; end up as ground chuck.

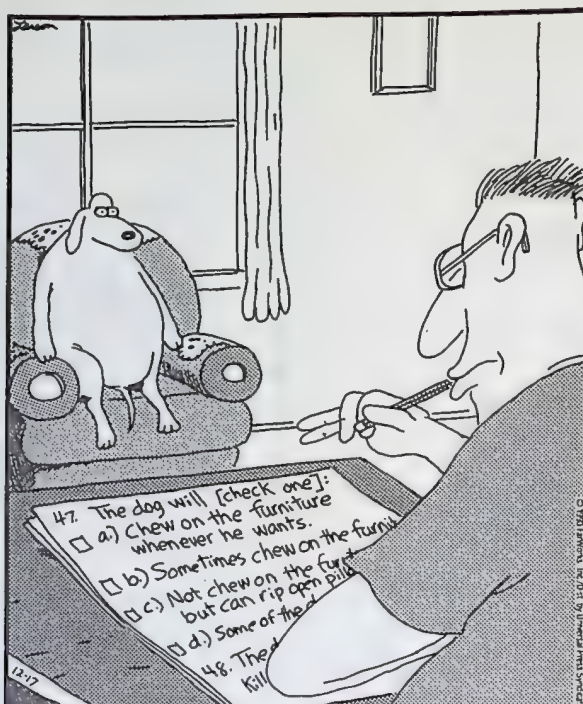
* **THE GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD.** 8 pm on Channel 56. Overly dramatic, predictable biblical epic. Read the book.

THE FAR SIDE

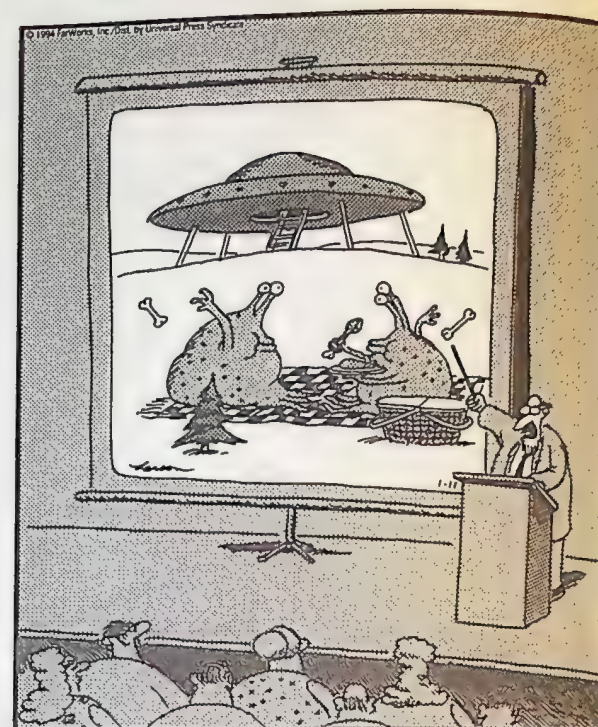
By GARY LARSON



"OK, everyone, we'll be departing for Antarctica in about 15 minutes. ... If anyone thinks he may be in the wrong migration, let us know now."



The questions were getting harder, and Ted could feel Lucky's watchful glare from across the room. He had been warned, he recalled, that this was a breed that would sometimes test him.



Professor Ferrington and his controversial theory that dinosaurs were actually the discarded "chicken" bones of giant, alien picnickers.

Photo: Jennifer Burdick

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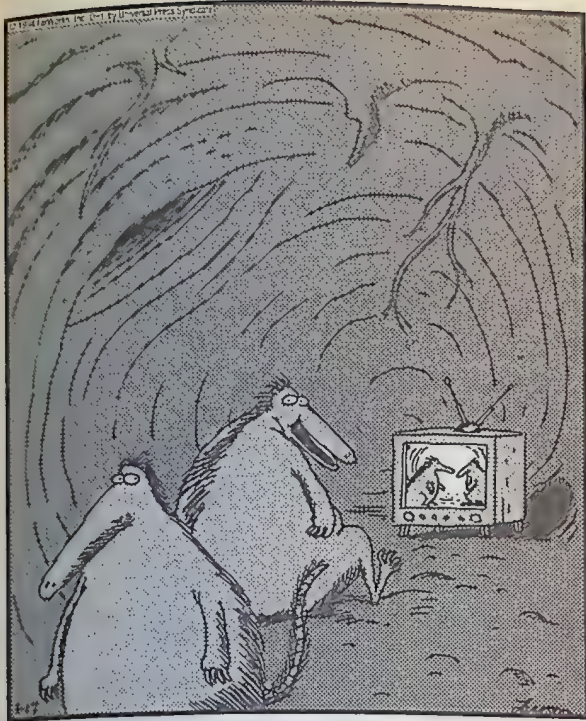
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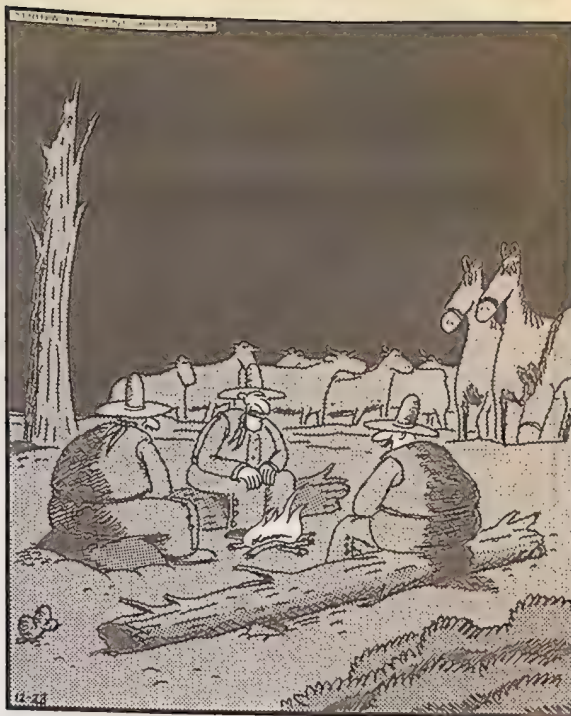
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"Vera! Come quick! Some nature show has a hidden camera in the Ericksons' burrow! ... We're going to see their entire courtship behavior!"



"OK, I got one—do you say 'darn it' or 'dern it'?"



"Today, our guest lecturer is Dr. Clarence Tibbs, whose 20-year career has culminated in his recent autobiography, 'Zoo Vet — I Quit!'"



"Hey! ... You!"



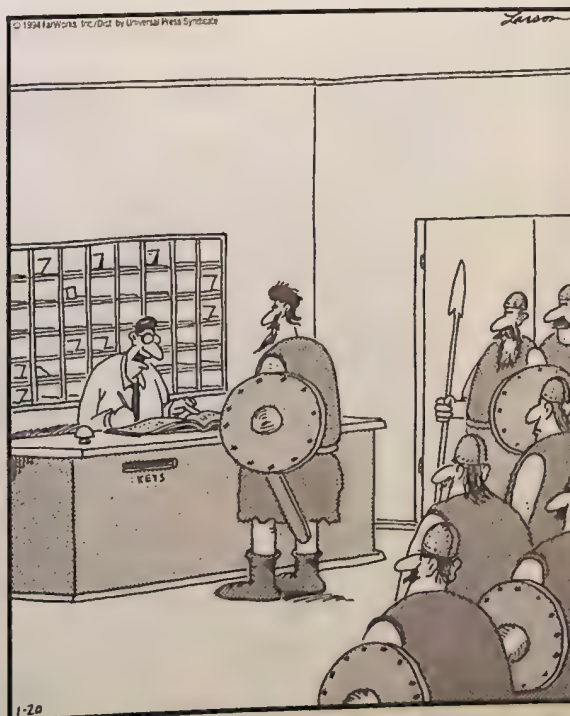
Crucial decisions along life's highway



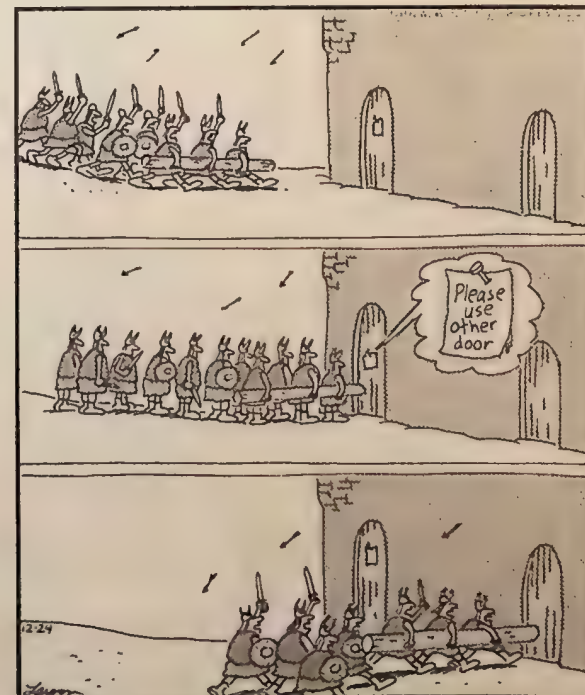
The Ice Crusades



His few friends had told him he could never buy it, but Mr. Crawley surmised that they just didn't know where the store was.



"I'm sorry, sir, but the reservation book simply says 'Jason.' ... There's nothing here about Jason and the Argonauts."



Leold

by Roger&Salem Salloom

I heard that the Walt Disney Corporation is suing the Serbian government for using a picture of Mickey Mouse on one of their recruitment posters.

I also heard that a small Christian group in Northampton, Massachusetts is suing the Serbian government for using a photo of Jesus Christ on a different recruitment poster.

Where'd they get the photo?

I'll bet Disney wins big. They have tough attorneys.

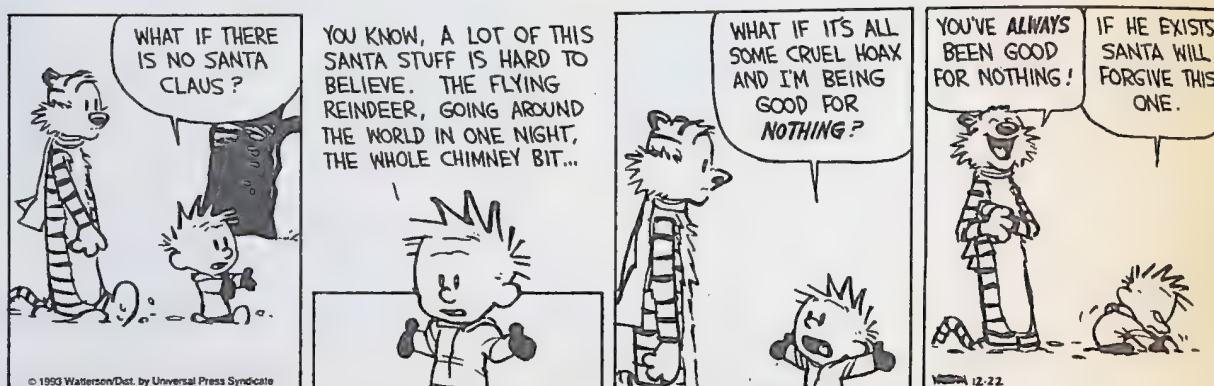
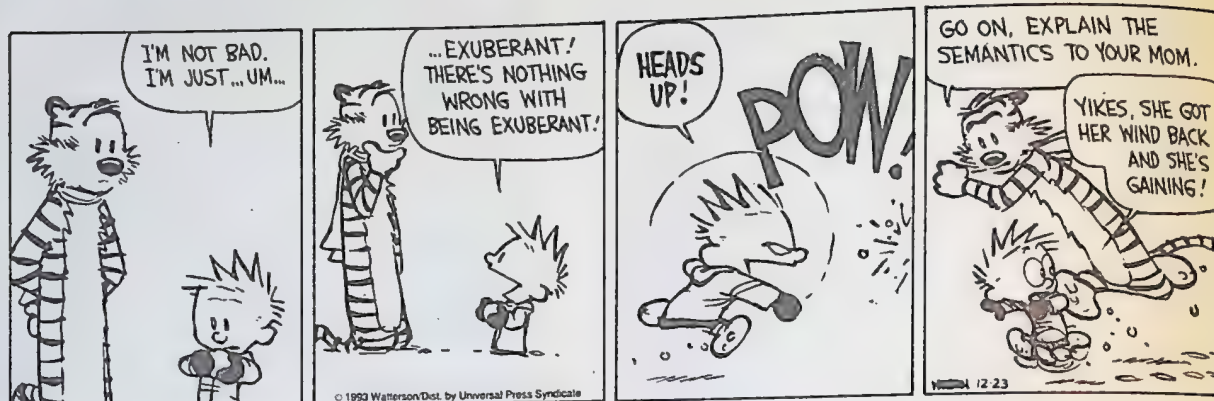
I don't think the Christians have a chance to win.

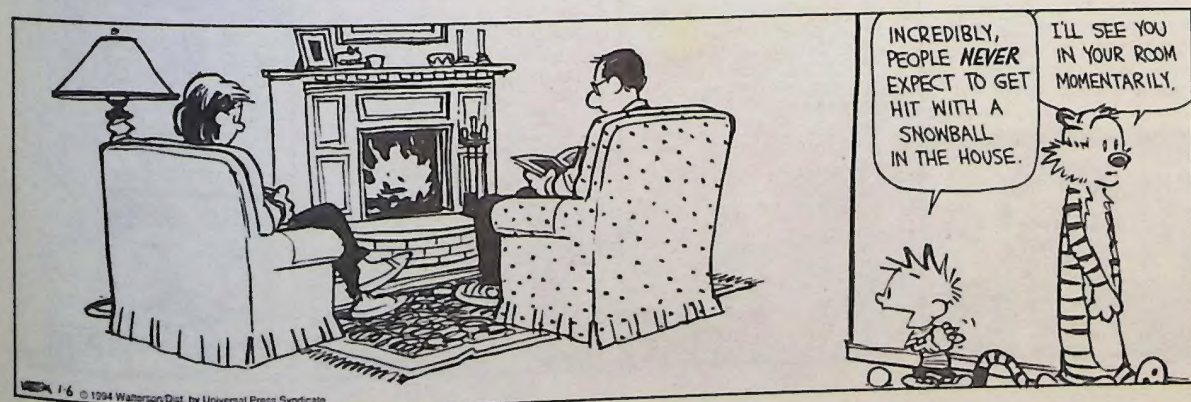
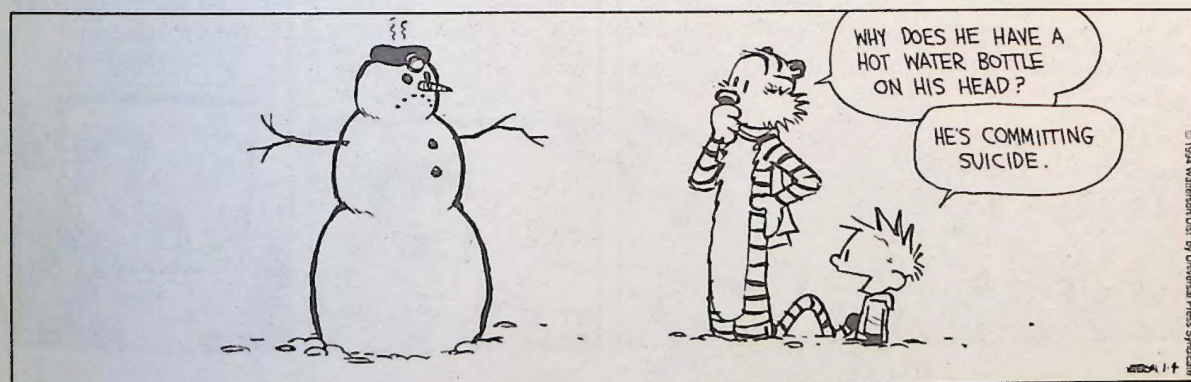
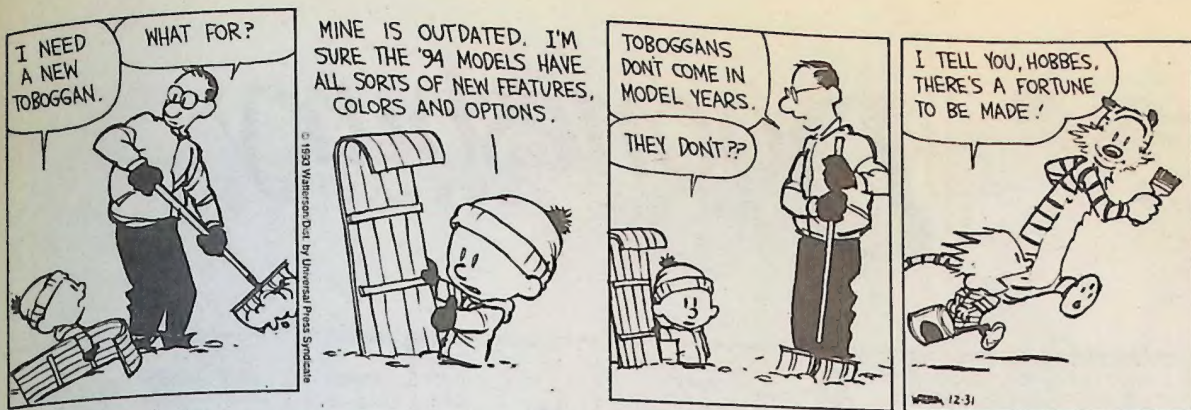
There's no precedent.



calvin and Hobbes

by BILL WATTERSON





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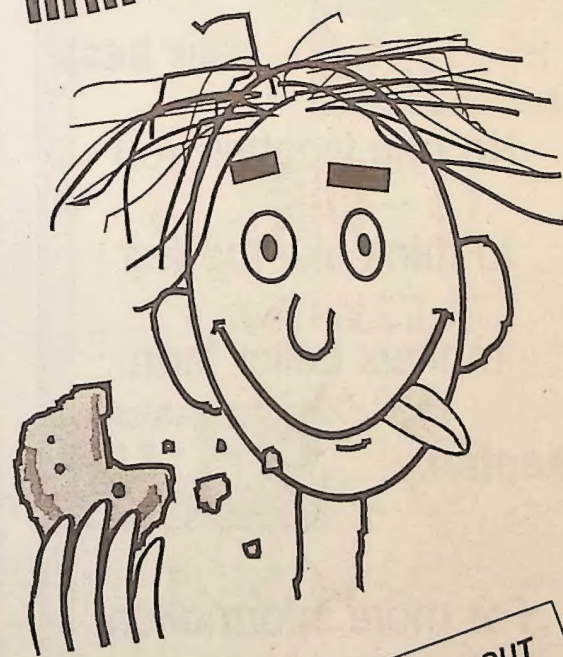
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BY G.B. TRUDEAU

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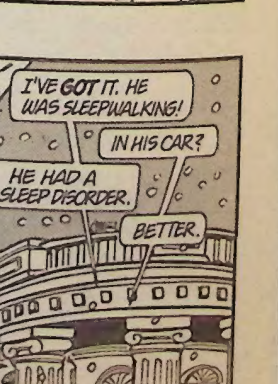
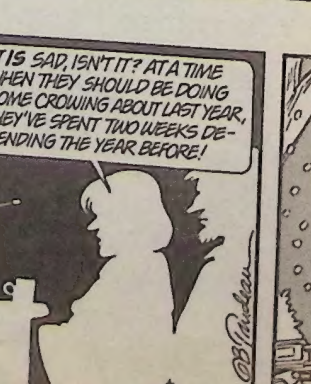
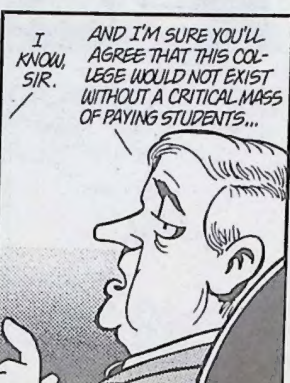
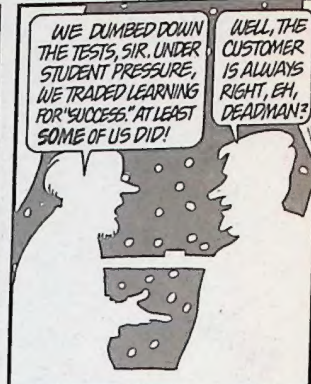
call 1-800-KAP-TEST.

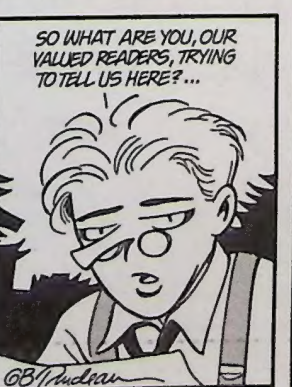
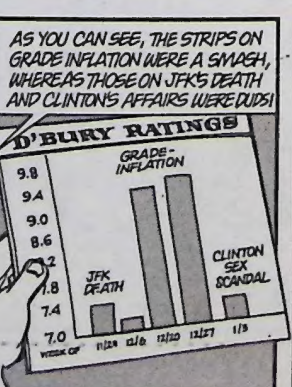
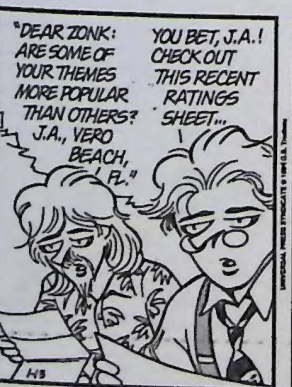
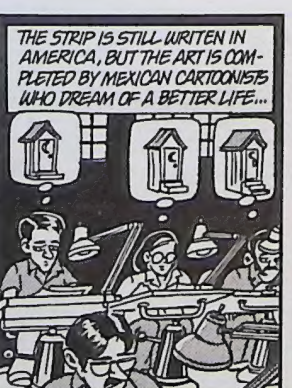
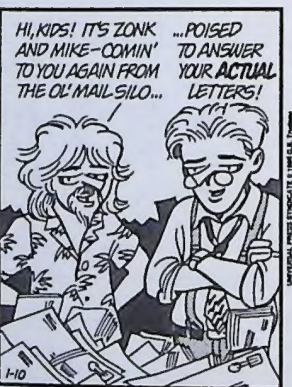
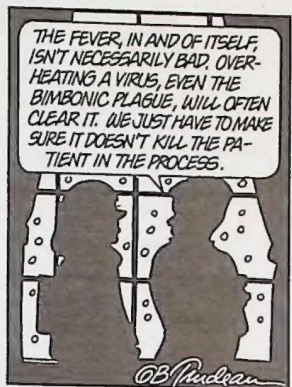
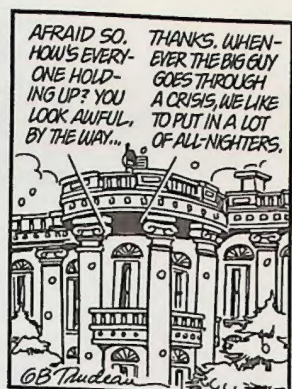
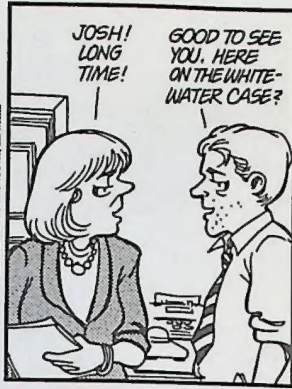
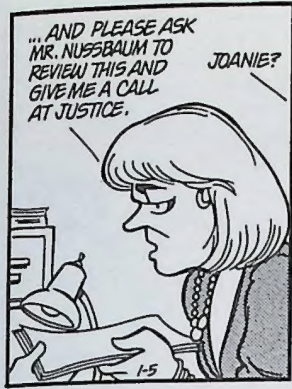
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